Curriculum Vitae

May 10, 1948:	Born to Giuseppe Collova and Rosina Emanuele; their fourth and last child, second son.
June 6, 1948:	Baptized by the Rev Dante Orsi, cs at St Rita's Catholic Church, Milwaukee, WI' Oreste & Annetta Zanoni, godparents.
May 20, 1955:	Received First Holy Communion at St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI from the hands of Rev Salvino Zanon, cs.
March 6, 1960:	Received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI by Bishop Roman Atkielski, DD, auxiliary bishop of Milwaukee.
May 3, 1975:	Ordained to the Diaconate in the Cathedral Church of St John the Evangelist. Milwaukee, WI by Archbishop William E Cousins, DD.
May 30, 1976:	Ordained to the Priesthood in the Mater Christi Chapel of the Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center by Archbishop William E Cousins, DD.
July 1, 1976:	Assigned to St James Church in Mequon, WI as Associate Pastor. Rev Edmund Haen, Pastor. (Proven Multiple Child Molester)
June 15, 1977:	Assigned to Holy Apostles Church, New Berlin, WI as Associate Pastor. Rev James R Johnson, Pastor. (An Alcoholic)
June 15, 1981:	Assigned to St James Church, Franklin, WI as Associate Pastor. Rev John J Pulice, Pastor. (Also served under Haen)
November, 1985:	Appointed Administrator Pro Temp at St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI by Archbishop Rembert Weakland, osb.
May 30, 1986:	Appointed Pastor of St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI by Archbishop Rembert Weakland, osb.
January 6, 1993:	Informed by the Vicar for Clergy, Rev Thomas Venne, that an allegation of sexual impropriety was leveled against me.
April 1, 1993:	Removed as Pastor of St Rita's have been unable to function publicly since this date.
July 5, 1994:	After a 16 month bout with Alzheimer's Disease, my mother passes away.

May 26, 1981

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova
Holy Apostles Parish
[redacted]
New Berlin, Wisconsin 53151

Dear Father Collova:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, and with the concurrence of the Archbishop, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at Holy Apostles Parish, New Berlin, and appoint you Associate Pastor at St. James Parish, Franklin, effective June 16, 1981. You will kindly report on that date to the Administrator, Father Guy Gurath.

In keeping with the Term of Office Policy inaugurated August 1, 1980, your assignment will exist for a period of up to six years from its effective date and after that will be reviewed for possible extension.

Accept my prayers and good wishes as you move on to a new area of priestly work.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki
Vicar for Priest Personnel

April 26, 1985

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova
St. James Church
[redacted]
Franklin, WI 53132

Dear Joe:

I write to thank you most sincerely for your amiable and enjoyable company during our trip to Wausau last Tuesday, and for the open and cooperative spirit with which you have utilized the professional services of [redacted]

I concur with your decision to leave St. James Parish in Franklin for a temporary leave of absence for health reasons, effective at the same date as the other spring assignment changes, and have already informed Father Eugene Neuman of that decision. It seems to be a very wise one in order to facilitate the reflection and renewal which you desire at this time. I recommend that you check with our office concerning the various resources available for a comprehensive weight reduction program, together with names of suitable therapists and spiritual directors in accordance with the recommendations of Dr. [redacted] and his associates.

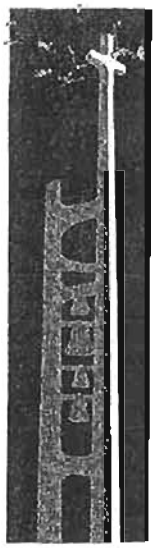
I am very pleased to be associated with the hard work and good priestly zeal reflected in your ministry over these past nine years, and look forward to a healthy renewal as a result of the discussions and prayerful decisions of these days. Please keep in contact so that we can be truly supportive while respecting your adult responsibility to take some of these matters into hand and make the decisions necessary for your continued growth in holiness, happiness and grace.

Fraternally,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/ars

COPY



3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee
Wis. 53201
414/769-3300
Archbishop Cousins
Catholic Center

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
Office of the Auxiliary Bishop

April 26, 1984

The Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, OSB
Archbishop of Milwaukee
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Dear Archbishop:

On Tuesday, April 23, 1985 I had the opportunity to drive to Wausau with Father Joseph Collova in order to receive the final report resulting from his consultation visit there last month. I found the entire method of operation as experienced on this occasion to be a very positive and professional contribution to Joe's continuing priesthood. We agreed that it would be wise for him to leave St. James Parish in Franklin and to be placed on a temporary leave of absence for health reasons in order to assist him in sorting out the various problems described in the report. We also agreed that he should move into a comprehensive weight reduction program, seek out a therapist for professional assistance and maintain contact with his spiritual director. I am presuming to move these items along in collaboration with Bishop Brust and the Personnel Board.

Sincerely,

+ Dick

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/srs

Enclosure

Dick — 5-3-85
Thanks for sharing Thomas.
+RJS

11-14-85

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
The Chancery

3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 2018
Milwaukee
Wis. 53201
414/769-3300
Archbishop Cousins
Catholic Center

November 13, 1985

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova 3172
[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53209

Dear Father Collova:

Following the recommendation of the Priests' Personnel Board and in accord with Canons 539-540 of the 1983 Code, you are hereby appointed temporary administrator of St. Rita Parish, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, until a new pastor is appointed. This appointment is effective November 20, 1985.

As temporary administrator you come under the provisions of Canon 540 which is quoted here in full:

> §1 The parochial administrator is bound by the same obligations and has the same rights of the pastor, unless the diocesan Bishop prescribes otherwise.
>
> §2 The parochial administrator may not do anything which could prejudice the rights of the pastor or could do harm to parochial property.
>
> §3 When he has discharged his office, the parochial administrator is to give an account to the pastor.

Note that you have the responsibility for the Pro Populo Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation; you are authorized to sign checks on all parish accounts to cover ordinary expenditures and to meet payroll obligations. Please note that in keeping with Canon 540, §2, no extraordinary changes are to be made. Urgent matters should be referred to the Archbishop.

Thanks, Joe, for assuming this assignment. Your willingness to do this is greatly appreciated.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

(Rev.) Ralph C. Gross
Vice-Chancellor

RCG/mk
cc: Rev. Eugene C. Neuman, Priests' Personnel Board
Most Rev. Leo J. Brust, Co-Vicar for Clergy Personnel
Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba, Co-Vicar for Clergy Personnel ✓
Rev. Albert Corradin, C.S., St. Rita Parish, Milwaukee

September 15, 1985

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova
[redacted]
Milwaukee, WI 53221

COPY

Dear Father Collova:

With this letter I formally assign you to residence at Bethany House and place you on temporary sick leave. As you know, during this leave the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will cover all your health and salary benefits effective immediately.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office.

Know of my prayers and support for you during this time of transition. May the fall season which will be upon us shortly bring you to a new sense of hope.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/srs

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE
3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. BOX 2018 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

June 8, 1986

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova
St. Rita Parish
[redacted]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Father Collova:

It is with great pleasure that I ask you to become the Pastor of St. Rita Parish in Milwaukee. Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, I am happy to entrust the faithful of that parish to your pastoral care beginning immediately. This appointment is being made for a period of time up to three years, after which time it will be reviewed for possible renewal.

As representative of the Archbishop in that parish, you are called upon to serve the needs of God's people so that they can take their rightful place as baptized Catholics in their own Faith-community and in society. Your mission, like my own, is one of teaching and sanctifying, and also of administrating the parish, together with the Parish Council and those organizations designated to collaborate with you.

It is a privilege to share my ministry with you. May God's blessings fill your life.

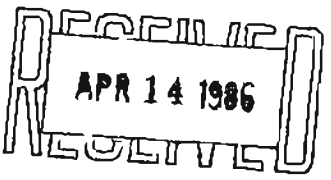
Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

[redacted]

[redacted] PH.D.
[redacted] PH.D.
[redacted] PSY.D.

[redacted]
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53202
[redacted]



April 10, 1986

Most Rev. Richard J. Skilba
Archdiocese of Milwaukee
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Re: Joseph Collova

Dear Bishop Skilba:

I am writing to inform you that Fr. Collova has finished his therapy with me. Our final session was on February 28, 1986, at which time Fr. Collova was doing extremely well. He has acclimated beautifully to the environment at St. Rita's and has maintained his ability to manage stress in his life while there. As you know, he feels very much "at home" at St. Rita's and appears to be quite well-liked by his parishioners. Over the course of our therapy, I feel that Fr. Collova made enormous progress in learning to recognize what precipitates stress for him and how to effectively cope with it. In particular, he has recognized and maintained his ability to set limits for himself. In addition, he has maintained his weight loss of approximately 30 lbs. and may loose even more than this in the future.

Fr. Collova and I have explored and discussed the incident which occurred at St. James and the issues represented by it. After our discussions, I feel confident that this was a false accusation. Fr. Collova and I have discussed in depth the psychological meaning of his close relationship with the adolescents at St. James, i.e. his desire at that time to have a family of his own. Fr. Collova has worked this through and no longer has the same psychological needs.

Overall, Fr. Collova was a very motivated and enthusiastic participant in the process of psychotherapy. He worked quite hard at looking carefully at himself, acknowledging both weaknesses and strengths, and making appropriate changes in both his behavior and his attitudes. I see Fr. Collova as an extremely compassionate, warm, sensitive and insightful man; it was a pleasure to work with him in therapy.

If I can be of any further assistance to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

[redacted]
[redacted] Psy.D.
Clinical Psychologist

[redacted]

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 S. Lake Drive • P.O. Box 07912 • Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414) 769-3484

Department of Clergy Personnel

January 15, 1993

[redacted]
St. Luke Institute
2420 Brooks Drive
Suitland, MD 20746-5294

Dear Ms. [redacted],

I am writing to you on behalf of Father Tom Venne who is on vacation until early February. I am sharing with you some information in confidence regarding Father Joseph Collova who has been referred to St. Luke's Institute.

On January 6, 1993, Fr. Venne met with Joseph Collova and shared with Joe the allegations concerning inappropriate behavior with a 17-18 year old and possibly 6 other such situations. Joe defined these as "horseplay among all of them". Joe made an appointment with [redacted], a sex therapist. Joe is open to evaluation regarding any sexual allegations.

Flight arrangements have been made for Joe via Midwest Express

1/24/93 - Flight 470: leaving Milwaukee at 9:00 A.M.
arriving Wash. Nat'l at 11:40 A.M.

1/30/93 - Flight 580: leaving Wash. Nat'l at 7:45 A.M.
arriving Milwaukee at 8:40 A.M.

If there is any question or other information you need, between now and the time of Joe's visit with St. Luke's, please contact me:

work - (414) 769-3458
home - (414) 964-8420.

Sincerely,

Reverend Thomas A. Trepanier
Ex. Sec. Priests' Personnel Board

TT/sks

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 S. Lake Drive • P.O. Box 07912 • Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414) 769-3300

Adult and Family Ministry

TO: Father Ton Venne
FROM: Mary Kay Balchunas
RE: Project Benjamin issue
DATE: December 18, 1992

This morning, I was visited by Mr. [redacted], phone: [redacted] [redacted] indicated that he had been fondled on several occasions by Father Joseph Collova during Father's tenure at St. James in Franklin. [redacted] said that he was age 17 or 18 at the time. [redacted] said that Father would invite [redacted] and his friends to Father's residence and sometimes invite them to spend the night. Father would give them hugs when they arrived and at the same time, fondle their genitals. Father, on one occasion, asked [redacted] to fondle his (Father's) genitals.

[redacted] relayed a situation in his teens when Father told him that he (Father) was going to teach one of [redacted] friends to use Preparation H. The boy and Father went upstairs in Father's residence and did not return downstairs for about one hour. [redacted] said that this boy [redacted]

[redacted] is concerned that Father may still be doing these things at St. Rita's. [redacted] said that he observed similar behaviors on Father's part in relation to altar boys at St. Rita's. These behaviors included inviting the boys into his residence, which [redacted] says indicated to him that they were boys that Father had chosen to invite to be a part of his group of young friends.

[redacted] said that he did not want to report this incident to the police, but came forward because he is concerned that Father is continuing this behavior. [redacted] is concerned for Father's mother and does not want to upset her.

I told [redacted] that I would convey this information to you, and that someone would contact him on Monday, Dec. 21. He will be at the above number after 3:30 pm. I explained our procedures and he agreed to speak with you and LIz. I gave him a Project Benjamin brochure and offered to assist him in finding therapy and a Contact Person, if desired.

MAR 0 5 1993

March 4, 1993

Strictly CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Tom,

I've had some time to reflect on my "experience" with Lizz Piasecki and I realize that my phone call that morning (3/2/93) may have seemed a little hasty but I must address and comment on some of the discussion in the hopes of simply clearing the air because my saturation point, as I stated, with this whole situation is quickly coming to the top:

1- She began by stating "what a mess!!"- I agreed; then she asked me for my side of the story and I told her as best as I could what I thought were significant events in MY LIFE and in my dealings with the accuser. She immediately discounted everything (which is OK) and stated quite emphatically that my accuser has traumatized the whole event and continues to with another therapist; she fursther stated that:

a) I had taken him to the point of erection--which I flatly denied; and

b) that my accuser contends that [redacted] and I were luring young people into the rectory ("Altar Boys" I understand were my accuser's words) because [redacted] & I already had a homosexual relationship (I almost threw up); my accuser is far sicker than I even imagined! I honestly feel that it is time for an investigation and I want St. Rita's investigated first!! Even if I have to pay for it (I'll find the money and I know one). There has been NOTHING, absolutely NOTHING of that sort here in any way, shape, or form. I want to submit the names (or have [redacted], our secretary). You can't imagine how I would love to throw that in her pompous face! And the above accusation was the real reason for informing the staff so that I could be watched (as providence would have they continue to be my strength and reason to go on.) This was unfair and unjust to NOT let me know! (Another violation of my civil rights!!)

2- I then stated: "Why was I not told about this? She stated "Didn't Tom tell you?" "No", I replied. "Well that's the process that I've complained about?" (I think she has a savior complex and really thinks she runs this whole thing!!)

Tom, this whole experience HAS BEEN a violation of my RIGHTS? I don't know how many times I've stated that (to you, to Sklba, to Trepanier) and continue to state that? I MUST KNOW IN WRITING EXACTLY WHAT I AM ACCUSED OF!!! She continued like she was the "pivotal point"inf the archdiocese which really irked me? (Who made her judge and jury? I once asked you if I could prejudice you? I was told NO. But she's prejudiced, judged, and sentenced me evidently.)

3- She stated that this is a highly volitle situation and that she still contends that I be out of here (St. Rita's) and at the same time telling me that it will be a long time before I meet and talk to my accuser! First,

I'm going somewhere (our conversation 3/2) and now I have to wait for months till my accuser is ready. With the newer information I'm not really sure I want to meet the accuser--I don't really think it can go anywhere; after talking to her I am convicend more than ever of his illness.

4- With the newer information what structure is there THAT PROTECTS ME FROM ALL THESE APPARENT NEW LIES? (As well as the old ones?) Why does this question always fall on deaf ears?

5- She made comments like "_____ still loves you" and "_____ is really concerned about my mom." (I am securing the promise from my closest priest friends that one will preside and the other preach in the event I am gone and she passes away). She stated that "Thank God you are NOT ephibaphilic or pedophilic" and then mentioned the situations of other "victims" including the PRIESTS NAMES!! This is highly un-professional and a real breach of confidentiality; I think she needs to go away and get a handle on her role as behavior scientist and forget trying to impress me or others with the strictly confdiential nature of OTHERS cases, as well as re-evaluate her professional activity.

6- Her comments on the process AND THOSE WHO DEAL WITH IT (not the Archbishop, of course) but including Sklba and YOU on down the line really portray a real lack of sensitivity to what is happening, a pompous attitude with regard to what is happening all over the place and NOW I AM DEADLY AFRAID OF WHO ELSE KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME AND WHO SHE WILL TELL WITH REGARD TO MY CASE. Is ever going to use my name?

7- Tom, I sincerely hope that this is helpful in dealing with this situation. I am having a very difficult time with the "Ping-Pong" being played. Someone has got to get this act together and stop giving conflicting messages and multiple "modus operandi". I am personally hurt by insinuations of confusion or stupidity made by those entrusted at present with my life (especially Dick Sklba who for all these years has made such an incredible investment in my personal health and well-being as a person and a priest--Dick is the ONLY reason I ever went to SLI; with comments made by her about those involved with the system or process as you call it.

8- She stated that I should talk to Rembert; then why I am talking to you and dealing with you? Somebody has got to clean up this act?

9- She finally gave me the impression of another allegation and stated that Rembert forgot the name but it's one I've used!! Who's been talking to whom? and why? She seems to think that more accusers will be coming forward!

In the hopes of seeing you soon and with your response to all the above, I remain,

sjc

SERVANTS of the PARACLETE

MAR 26 1993

March 23, 1993

Reverend Joseph Collova
[redacted]
Milwaukee, WI 53202-2014

Dear Father Collova:

This is to confirm your admission on Sunday, April 18, 1993, in the St. Michael's Community Program.

In order to facilitate our transportation schedule, please let me know your transportation plans no later than ten days before your arrival. I am enclosing a map to St. Michael's for your information.

We look forward to your arrival and wish you a safe trip. If you should have any additional questions or concerns, please feel welcome to contact me any time during regular business hours.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted] C.M.
Case Manager

Enclosures

cc: Reverend R. Thomas Venne

SAINT RITA PARISH



[redacted] Milwaukee, WI 53202 • [redacted]

June 2, 1993

Dear Tom,

Thanks so very much for your recent letter of May 28; it was deeply and greatly appreciated.

St. Michael's is an incredible place! It wreaks with a profound care for priests; the Paraclete community and the staff assembled here is by far the greatest beyond words and I can't say that in words because they are too limiting.

As I conclude my 9th week here I have come to what I feel is a necessary step in my healing process: I have decided that what I really need for a while is REST (that is sleep &relaxation) and a sense of connectedness with those I love. Tom, it's time for me to do what my heart and instincts tell me--it's time to tell the family what has happened. I also need to join my sisters and brothers in resolving my mom's health and future issues. We siblings are meeting Saturday afternoon at my oldest sister [redacted] house where I will be staying for the time being.

So as of June 5th, I can be reached at

Mrs. [redacted]

I hope to get my own phone installed if possible.
Also, the Paraclete community has helped me realize that my future pristhood should be on the back burner where I have placed it.

Once again, please afford me the time and space to rest and heal.

Sincerely,

Joe

P.S. I will keep you posted from time to time! Thanks Joe

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 S. Lake Drive • P.O. Box 07912 • Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414) 769-3484

Department of Clergy Personnel

May 28, 1993

Reverend Joseph Collova
St. Michael's Community
[redacted]
St. Louis, MO 63127

Dear Joe,

I did receive the report from St. Michael's and the letter you sent. I was sorry to hear that it has not been a positive experience for you, though I know that this whole matter has been extremely difficult. I am truly sorry for whatever I might have done and said that did not help to clarify the situation as presented to us. At your request Archbishop Weakland has begun the process of investigation, so that we might be fair to you and to all involved. We know that people do have different perceptions of events, and we certainly want to ascertain the truth as best we can. I did call [redacted] to discuss the report and how we might proceed to listen to your concerns. It is not for legal reasons that the Archbishop asked for you to go to St. Michael's, but to have the opportunity to receive professional counseling in light of these allegations and your discerning your decision about the future.

I shared your letter with Rembert regarding the request to begin a process toward laicization. He hoped you would be able to use the staff at St. Michael's to help you in that discernment process. If you do decide to do so, Ralph Gross would be the person that would assist you. If that is your choice, I would be willing to have Ralph call you to discuss what is involved.

I am planning to visit St. Michael's the latter part of June. I hope at that time we would be able to mret with the appropriate staff persons to discuss whatever you feel would be best for you. If something needs to be done before that, please do not hesitate to call me (414-769-3490). I pray that the Spirit of Pentecost, we celebrate this Sunday, will help all of us in our discernments and will be with you in a special way.

Sincerely,

Tom

Reverend R. Thomas Venne
Vicar for Clergy Personnel

RTV/sks

May 13, 1993

MAY 17 1993

Re. Thomas Deane
P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, Wi
53207-0912

Tom,

By now you should have received my progress report. Kindly initiate the process for my laicization.

Thanks,

Joe

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
3501 S. Lake Drive • P.O. Box 07912 • Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414) 769-3300

Office of Auxiliary Bishop

June 11, 1993

JUN 1 1 1993

St. Rita Parish
1603 North Cass Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Friends:

I recently received a copy of a letter from Father Joseph Collova, indicating his desire to initiate a temporary leave of absence for personal and health reasons. The Archdiocese desires to respect that request and asks all to join in common prayer for him during this time of discernment. His well-being is important to all of us.

At the same time we will do everything possible to work with the Parish Council and staff of St. Rita's so that good pastoral care be provided during this time of transition. Father Paul Janette will continue as Temporary Administrator for the sacramental needs of the community.

God's peace to all.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/rt

Blind copies to:
Archbishop Weakland
Fr. Joseph Collova
Fr. Paul Janette
Fr. Tom Venne
Fr. Len Barbian

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 S. Lake Drive • P.O. Box 07912 • Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414) 769-3300

The Chancery
(414) 769-3340

To: "Emergency Intervention" Committee
From: Barbara Anne Cusack BAC
Re: Decisions at Meeting on 7-7-93
Date: July 8, 1993

As a result of our meeting on July 7, 1993 the following decisions were made and action steps proposed with the following time lines and designated persons responsible:

	Decision/Action	Time line	Person(s) responsible
1)	Prepare a brief message to be read at all Masses at St. Rita's the weekend of 7/10-7/11	By Thursday	Bishop Sklba/ Rosemary Murphy
2)	Contact parish staff and parish leaders (trustees/council chair) and share the prepared message	By Friday	Bishop Sklba
3)	Contact Fr. Collova and inform him of plan and share prepared message	By Thursday	Fr. Tom Venne
4)	Review planned message and raise questions of criminal/civil action with Matt Flynn	Thursday	Archbishop
5)	Contact Fr. Augustine and share prepared message; inform him of Central Office support	Friday	Fr. Len Barbian
6)	Serve as contact for incoming calls	(Continue)	CSS
7)	Act as spokesperson/ contact with media	(As need arises)	Rosemary Murphy
8)	Review Fr. Collova's personnel file to clarify status of assignment	Thursday	Barbara A.Cusack

A follow-up meeting will be called as the need arises for further action.

Let us go
FORWARD

CELEBRATING
150 YEARS

"Let us go forward on the road that has brought us to where we are"

PHILIPPIANS 3:16

FR. TOM VENNE - FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 S. Lake Drive • P.O. Box 07912 • Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414) 769-3300

Office of Auxiliary Bishop

July 9, 1993

JUL 19 1993

St. Rita Parish
1603 North Cass Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Parishioners of Saint Rita:

In my letter of June 11, 1993 I informed the parish of the fact that Father Collova requested a leave of absence from priestly ministry. With regret I must now add to that communication the fact that the Archdiocese is currently investigating an allegation of misconduct as well.

When that inquiry is completed we will share whatever information may be appropriate, given the rights of all concerned.

Meanwhile Father Paul Janette remains the Temporary Administrator of the Parish.

Please join me in prayer for the healing and spiritual welfare of all.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/rt

Let us go FORWARD

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

ADOM008017

M E M O

To Archbishop Weakland Date 9/3/93

From L. J. Breech Re F. Callow

Rembert —

[redacted] filed suit today re: [redacted]
That is public record. Callow is
still spending time at that rectory
per Paul Jeanette.

We do not need to see Callow's
face in the media coming out
of that rectory at this date —

L.

Catholic Social Services

Restrictions
Partially lifted

November 17, 1995

Archbishop Weakland has partially lifted the restrictions placed on Father Joseph Collova for ministry.

As of this date Joseph will be given permission to do helpout work on weekends in parishes of the Archdiocese.

We will assist him in the process as he again begins to immerse himself in ministry.

Carrol C Straub

Rev. Carrol C. Straub

cc: Barbara Anne Cusack

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

DEPARTMENT FOR CLERGY PERSONNEL

FILE COPY

December 5, 1995

Rev. S. Joseph Collova
[redacted]
Muskego, WI 53150-8706

Dear Joe,

In response to your letter of November 27, 1995, I would like to remind you that Wilmot is only a temporary weekend helpout situation.

As far as the Clergy Manual is concerned, the item contained in the manual that refers to your specific ministry at this time is the helpout compensation explanation (item enclosed).

I talked to Paul Janette about your continuing formation fund and retreat expenses. He informed me you have $79.00 in your continuing education fund. Also if your retreat is in the Milwaukee area he would be able to find money to finance a retreat for you.

As far as biographical sketches of the parish are concerned, please slow down a bit. I help out on weekends and I don't have bulletins and financial reports either. Besides, I don't even have access to these items presently for Wilmot. I'm sure you'll get along very well without all this additional information.

Please be sure to set up an appointment with me during Christmas week to clarify the dates and times of liturgies.

Sincerely,

Rev. Carrol C. Straub
Vicar for Clergy

CCS/sks

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414)769-3484

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Copies To:
Steb
Straub
Lynn Vie

March 14, 1997

MAR 14 1997

Reverend Joseph Collova
[redacted]
Muskego WI 53150

Dear Joe,

Yesterday, March 13th, I had the opportunity to meet with my Consultors for a lengthy period of time and one of the issues we discussed was the way in which the Archdiocese should at this point relate to your needs. Naturally we also wanted to make sure that the needs of the Archdiocese and its pastoral ministry were adequately taken into account.

I presented to the Consultors that we have been giving you monthly $1,424.00 as salary, $705.00 for housing, $402.58 for insurance, $27.47 for dental coverage. This comes monthly to $2,559.05 or to $30,708.60 yearly. There was unanimous agreement that this is more than adequate sustenance for a single person. There was absolutely no request that this be increased, as everyone felt that anyone could adequately live on such a sum of money.

In addition to these sums I would also have to add that we recently have paid your legal fees which I believe have run over $10,000.00; and I cannot even estimate the legal fees of the Archdiocese in your case. They involve not only the preliminary part but also now the constant need for documentation on appeals where your case is mingled with so many others. I believe we are the only diocese in the world that picks up legal fees of this sort for priests, and sometimes I wonder if this has been indeed wise on our part; but I do want the priests to receive independent counsel, since sometimes the interests of the diocese are not always those of the individual priest.

In the light of the above, Joe, I can assure you there will be no increase on the part of the diocese towards your sustenance. And if there is need to do so, I certainly will make these figures public, certainly among the presbyterate.

I know you were in touch with Father Carrol Straub about the possibility of an outside evaluation for future ministry. It is so important that this take place; otherwise, any possibility of future ministry is out of the question. I know that your psychologist has proposed an

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ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

March 14, 1997

Reverend Joseph Collova
Muskego WI 53150 -2

outside counselor to do this evaluation, and I appreciate very much that possibility and have wanted to act on it. I cannot do so without, of course, satisfying also my own staff here in the Department of Clergy. I don't think they would feel adequately informed to make any future decisions about your ministry without a more in-depth evaluation and for this reason Southdown was suggested. Your own psychologist thought it was wise to take care of these issues so that when an ultimate settlement of the legal suits comes about we will be able to proceed more expeditiously. I also think that is wise and good advice. In many ways this is much more important than just finding some kind of non-priestly work until those cases are settled.

I believe, Joe, it is also time for us to become a bit more aggressive in our conducting of your case. The Consultors have asked me to move ahead more rapidly and to put some time-limits on all of these issues. For this reason I am requesting that you get back to me by May 15th, or to Carrol Straub, about the possibility of the Southdown evaluation. I hope, Joe, you take this question of timing quite seriously. I know this has dragged on now for almost an interminable period of time; but there is no way in which people's doubts about your ability to minister as a Catholic priest can be allayed without some more secure and positive input from those who would evaluate more objectively the situation.

Peace and blessings.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

+ Rembert G. Weakland

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

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ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

DEPARTMENT FOR CLERGY PERSONNEL

April 9, 1997

Dr. [redacted]

Dear Dr [redacted]

At your request and upon the release of Father S. Joseph Collova I am sending you by way of FAX the following items today:

1. The signed release form

2. The assessment from St. Luke, Institute

3. The 1985 Evaluation from [redacted]
(of [redacted])

The report from St. Michael's Community is no longer available from our office. On April 12, 1993 St. Michael's confirmed that Father Collova entered there that same date. On May 24, 1993 a progress report was received from St. Michael's (later shredded). On June 2, 1993 [redacted] of St. Michael's called to inform us that Joe Collova notified them that he would be leaving St. Michael's on June 4, 1993.

Dr. Liz Piasecki recommends to you that after you have Fr. Collova sign a release upon his arrival at Southdown, you should contact St. Michael's Community, [redacted] to obtain the report directly from them.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do for you.

Peace,

O. Kathleen Schweihs

Sister Kathleen Schweihs, CSA
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Vicar for Clergy

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FAX TRANSMISSION....

DATE: April 9, 1997

TO: Dr. [redacted]
SOUTHDOWN

FROM: Rev. Carol Straub's ~~Archbishop Weakland's~~ Office/Milwaukee

PAGES: 24
(no. following cover sheet)

ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:
SISTER KATHLEEN SCHUCHS
414-769-3484

FAX:
&
Phone [redacted]

SEP 1 0 1997

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 10, 1997

Reverend S. Joseph Collova
[redacted]
Muskego WI 53150-8706

Dear Joe,

Your letter arrived just as I was preparing to leave for vacation and retreat during the month of August. I am just now able to respond. I understand your enthusiasm over the finalizing of the civil court processes and appreciate your concern that your ministerial status be clarified. However, this same enthusiasm appears to be clouding the reality of your situation and your perception of the facts. Also, while I share your concern about clarifying your status, I am afraid I do not have the same optimism about your readiness for an assignment.

I am certain that your attorney will agree that the issue before the courts in this most recent hearing was that of the legal technicality of applying the statute of limitations to your cases. The court made no declaration of "innocence" on your part as you state; this was not the matter being studied by them. Furthermore, not only were the merits of the cases not being addressed, in the decision itself the allegations were accepted as factual. (At various junctures along the way, dating back to 1981 and 1985, you yourself admitted to some dimensions of these facts. History was not erased by this court decision.)

As far as a ministerial assignment is concerned, along with the restoration of your priestly faculties, I am very hesitant about your readiness for such resumption of ministry. As you are aware, three independent professional evaluations reached the same conclusions regarding the presence of psychosexual problems. The most recent evaluation explicitly cautioned against a ministerial assignment at this time, stating that it would be inappropriate. Therefore, I am not prepared to offer any ministerial assignment at this time and the restrictions on your exercise of priestly ministry, because the foundations for them continue, remain in place.

I do not wish this situation to remain indefinitely. Therefore, if you wish any consideration for assignment in the future, there are certain prerequisites that I must demand. First, you must commit to long-term therapeutic treatment. It must be goal-oriented and those goals must include your addressing the issues of ongoing psychosexual immaturity, boundary violations, and ownership of your personal responsibility for your current situation. Second, there must be ongoing signs of movement toward responsible behavior and integration. Third, your frequent vacillations about commitment to priestly ministry must be addressed in some concrete way.

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ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 10, 1997

Reverend S. Joseph Collova
Muskego WI 53150-8706 -2

I continue to be concerned about your apparent lack of remorse or even awareness of the toll your actions have taken on others. Your concern about your own legal bills without reference to the enormity of the expense to the diocese in this matter is an indication of your ongoing lack of reality. Your recent filing of a complaint with the Wisconsin State Psychological Association is more indicative of a spirit of retaliation than it is of remorse and desire to set your life on an even course.

All of these matters have been extended over far too long a period of time. Therefore, I wish you to consider seriously the requirements I have stated above. By the end of September, I would like to receive in writing from you a plan of action to address these concerns. Because past behavior has shown a reluctance on your part to reply in a timely fashion, I am placing this deadline to encourage your response. Failure to reply by that time will result in my investigating what canonical options I have at my disposal, possibly including a process to declare you impeded from the exercise of orders.

I know that all of this is difficult for you to accept, Joe, especially in light of the obvious enthusiasm which fueled your inquiry. It is my responsibility not only to you in helping you face reality but also to the people entrusted to my care that motivates this response.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

+ Rembert G. Weakland

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

CC: Bishop Richard J. Sklba
Reverend Thomas Kerstein, Vicar for Clergy
Barbara Anne Cusack, Chancellor

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Attorneys at Law in
Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin
West Palm Beach and Naples, Florida
Phoenix, Arizona

Quarles & Brady

NOV 05 1997

November 4, 1997

Paul J. Gossens, Esq.
Gossens & George, S.C.
Suite 500
219 North Milwaukee Street
Milwaukee WI 53202

Re: Rev. S. Joseph Collova

Dear Paul:

As we discussed, I am authorized to make the following response to your offer concerning Father Collova. If Father Collova is willing to seek laicization and enter into a settlement agreement, the Archdiocese would provide the following:

(1) 18 months of continued coverage in the health insurance plan in which he is presently enrolled with the premiums to be paid by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee;

(2) provision of EITHER a lump sum payment of $20,000 to assist him, should he so choose, in payment of insurance premiums in a plan of his own choosing upon expiration of the 18 month coverage (or to be used by him as he sees fit) OR if he is unable to obtain coverage due to preexisting health conditions and provides proof of such denial of coverage, the establishment of a fund to pay premiums for his coverage in the State of Wisconsin Health Insurance Risk Sharing Plan (HIRSP) until he reaches the age of 65.

Should Father Collova choose to take a lump sum payment, $10,000 would be paid out upon submission of his petition for laicization and $10,000 upon an affirmative response from the

Vatican. If a negative response is received, the additional $10,000 would be payable to Father Collova upon his signing a release agreement and severance document with the Archdiocese by which he would agree not to exercise priestly ministry.

Father Collova's options with regard to his pension are in accord with the rules of the plan. He may remain invested in the plan and receive prorated pension payments upon reaching retirement age. Or, he may transfer the funds contributed by him, with interest accrued at a rate of 6% per annum, to another qualified plan. Or, he may receive directly a lump sum payment of that same amount.

I hope this is helpful. Please call me to discuss at your convenience.

Yours truly,

QUARLES & BRADY

Matthew J. Flynn

MJF:pr

bc: Most Rev. Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba
Father Thomas F. Kerstein
Dr. [redacted]
Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack
Mr. Wayne Schneider

207. S. Joseph Collova
On March 6, 1996 I telephoned Joseph after consultation with the Archbishop to give him permission to preside at the funeral of inactive Permanent Deacon Sebastian Fomalaro at St. Mary's in Pewaukee, due to the fact that the pastor, Fr. Carl Alberte, is currently hospitalized. At the suggestion of the Archbishop I alerted Joe to the public signal he would be giving in contrast with recent communications regarding laicization.

RJS

256. S. Joseph Collova
On March 20, 1996 in a meeting with Fr. Carrol Straub I concluded that given the strong opposition to full restoration of faculties by Carrol Straub and the Archdiocesan psychologist, his acknowledgment of previous behavior without acknowledging responsibility for it afterwards, his somewhat erratic and impulsive response to situations, his having left treatment, and the fact that his case remains in the Court of Appeals, I was not convinced that restoration of faculties was wise at this time. I agreed to share that information with parties concerned.

RJS

372. Joseph Collova
On April 13, 1996 I received a phone call from Leonard Barbian who reported that Joseph Collova had concelebrated the Easter Vigil Mass with Thomas Demse at St. John Neumann Parish, in spite of lack of faculties.

RJS

141. Collova, Joe
On May 21, 1996 Fr. Melvin Breit called to ask permission for Fr. Joseph Collova to concelebrate a funeral at St. Rita Parish. I refused the request, since the Joe Collova case at this time seems to be so very confusing.

CCS

214. Collova, Joseph
On August 14, 1996 I received a FAX addressed to the Archbishop from Joseph Collova. The following was the content of his message: "Good morning, Archbishop. I got some phone calls from priests asking to help out for the holyday. Is there anyway that I can have permission for specific parishes or communities to celebrate Mass. Have not received anything by phone, FAX, or writing since our meeting of July 18, 1996. Kindly advise, it would really be appreciated. Thanks for your patience. Please FAX a response at 679-0170. Thanks again. Sincerely, Joe

In response I faxed him the following message:
"The Archbishop is out of town until August 21st. He did speak to me about your conversation with him on July 18, 1996. Permission to celebrate Mass at specific parishes or communities is denied. We are researching something unrelated to parish ministry for you at this time."

CCS

504. Joseph Collova

On August 18, 1993 I spoke with Paul Janette who indicated that Joe Collova had been residing in St. Rita's Rectory on occasion, contrary to stipulations. I again asked that Paul clarify the fact that this was contrary to Archdiocese request, pending the conclusion of our investigation. I also spoke with Tom Venne and requested that Tom communicate to Joe our concerns regarding the amount of financial help which would be available to him for legal services if his own resources were unable to cover the full costs.

RJS

REDACTED

563. Joseph Collova

On September 17, 1993, in the absence of Tom Venne, I met with Liz Piasecki who expressed her concern for establishing some type of supervision system for Joe, possibly the fact that he would have to come to Cousins Center in order to pick up his salary check each month. This would at least give evidence of some kind of monitoring, pending final resolution of the matter.

RJS

396. Joseph Collova
On June 21, 1993 I met with Srs. Marie Louise Balistreri and Elizabeth in order to discuss the current situation at St. Rita's. They again expressed concern over the misinformation being circulated by Joe. I learned that Tom Venne will meet with the Directors of St. Michael's Institute in St. Louis on Tuesday, June 29, 1993 in order to assess Joe's situation from their standpoint. To the best of our information Joe himself decided to leave the program and that there was no recommendation from the Treatment program Director to do so at that time. At the session with the Sisters it was noted that the four month period to which Joe refers regularly in explaining his intention to return to Milwaukee in mid-August, was based on the normal duration of a full treatment program. Since he left the program midway it does not seem reasonable to continue supporting such a presumed date for his return to Milwaukee. It is clear that no decision regarding Joe's future can be made prior to Tom Venne's meeting with the Directors of St. Michael's program and the conclusion of the investigation by Sr. Mary Howard Johnstone.

RJS

417. Joseph Collova
On June 30, 1993 I received a phone call from Liz Piasecki who expressed great concern over Joe's possible contact with victims or young people in the parish. Although she stated that Attorney Matt Flynn was unwilling to authorize any investigation, a subsequent conversation with Matt himself resulted in Matt's approval for the investigation currently being conducted by Sr. Mary Howard Johnstone, with the understanding that it was not an extensive inquiry in the parish, but contact with a group of young adults with whom Joe had been socially active over the past 10 years. Later that same day I spoke with Tom Venne who reported his meeting with the authorities at St. Michael's Institute in St. Louis on Monday, June 28, 1993 in which he was again informed that Joe had given little cooperation to the program and insisted on a denial of any guilt. Tom Venne also restated that Joe himself had decided to leave the program in St. Louis on his own initiative, rather than at the suggestion of the staff or Director.

On July 1, 1993 I had an extensive phone conversation with Joe himself in which I informed him of the fact that his faculties for public ministry were suspended, effective that same day. I indicated that he was not to engage in any youth ministry in Minnesota, nor to contact youth at the parish of St. Rita's pending the completion of the investigation. Since his mother was transferred to a Nursing Home that same day I gave him permission to celebrate Mass for his family members only until his return to Milwaukee, which Joe projected to be sometime in the beginning of August, 1993. I reaffirmed the decision that he could not return to his assignment at St. Rita's but promised to work with Tom Venne in providing some kind of residence location for him upon his return. He understood the

417. Joseph Collova (cont'd)
conditions and accepted them vocally. I followed the conversation with a letter reaffirming the conditions of his current restrictions. That same day I spoke with Tom Venne and requested that the Vicar's budget assume responsibility for Joe's salary effective July 1, 1993, rather than expecting St. Rita's parish to continue that effort. On July 2, 1993 I reviewed the entire matter with Tom Schneider as Acting Coordinator for Project Benjamin and included a stipulation in Joe's letter to the effect that he was to have no unsupervised contact with minors, pending the final results of the investigation.

RJS

23. Collova, Joseph

On January 6, 1993 I met with Joseph Collova at St. Rita's Parish. I shared with Joe the allegations concerning inappropriate behavior with [redacted] who asked that his name not be used at this time. Since there were six young men (17-18 years old) that frequently meet with Joe at his apartment and did many activities together, I was able to talk in general terms. Joe said that there was a lot of horseplay among all of them. There would be wrestling and they would jump on him and hit on each other. He named all of them and his present and past relationship with them. Since [redacted] did not want his name used, I could not reveal the specific incident [redacted] had mentioned in fear of this revealing his identity. Joe said he would like to know who it was and what specific incident the allegation concerns. Joe did agree to tell his staff (3 persons) about the allegation and that he should not have any unsupervised contact with minors at this time. Joe said since the matter in 1985 when he caught kids breaking into the property at St. James and someone said they were going to accuse him of inappropriate behavior he has not had minors at his house. He mentioned Matt Flynn's caution

Colova, Joseph - continued

even with nephews. Joe is willing to go to St. Luke's Institute for an evaluation. He will also make an appointment to see [redacted] who had previously worked with him in therapy for depression. Joe called on 1/7/93 to inform me that he had told his staff and made an appointment with [redacted] He wanted more information on the evaluation at St. Luke's and I told him I would let him know.

On 1/7/93 I spoke with [redacted] and told him I had shared the allegation with Joe but could not reveal the specific incident for fear of revealing his identity. [redacted] understood. I told him that Joe spoke of all the horseplay between them and talked about all those in the group. I also told [redacted] about Joe informing his staff and not having any unsupervised contact with minors. Also that Joe would be seeing a professional person to help us in this matter. [redacted] indicated he felt we have responded very responsibly and was grateful for our response. [redacted] had not yet called [redacted] and I encouraged him to do so. I told [redacted] I would be away on vacation until early February and would call him on my return. He seemed very open to that. On 1/8/93 I called St. Luke's Institute to arrange for an evaluation of Joe and was informed that Mar. 14 was the earliest for a 5-day evaluation. I reserved that date, but [redacted] will call us if a 10-day evaluation has an opening sooner. I told her I wasn't sure what time period Archbishop Weakland would like to wait for an evaluation in this case. She will call Sr. Kathleen if there is an earlier opening. On 1/9/93 I called Joe Collova to let him know the arrangements with St. Luke's Institute and most likely I would be home from vacation before his evaluation takes place.

RTV

38. Collova, S. Joseph
On Wednesday, May 1, 1985, Joe called me to tell me that he had been summoned to the Franklin Police Department because a [redacted] year old [redacted] offices of St. James in Franklin had subsequently accused Joe of sexual assault. The matter seems to be at present in the hands of the District Attorney of Milwaukee County in order to ascertain the possibility of grounds for such a charge. His lawyer is Timothy Reardon, and I suggested as did his lawyer that Joe contact Joe Dean in order to make sure that the resources and the experiences of the Archdiocese are available to him. He was in good spirits and told me that he had just informed St. James Parish of his decision to leave the parish for another assignment.

RJS

130. Collova, S. Joseph
On Friday, August 23, 1985 I spoke with Joe on the phone. He indicated his need to give 30-day notice from the apartment and his desire to move in mid-September toward Bethany House. I had discussed the matter with Ken Metz who indicated that Joe could probably move into the apartment currently occupied by Bill Murray. Joe and Ken will bring the matter to conclusion and work out the details. Joe also indicated a possible restlessness and wondered about some kind of priestly assignment or pastoral work this fall. We agreed to pursue that subsequent to his moving to Bethany House in September.

RJS

154. Collova, S. Joseph
His therapist's name is [redacted] a member of the staff of Family Health Clinic at St. Mary Hospital, Milwaukee with an office at [redacted]

RJS

196. Collova, S. Joseph
On Wednesday, October 9, 1985, Joe called to say that he was doing well and that I should expect a letter from his therapist, Dr. [redacted] indicating the goals currently being pursued in counseling sessions. Things seem to be going well at Bethany House.

RJS

213. Collova, Joseph
On Wednesday, November 6, 1985 I spoke with Dr. [redacted] therapist for Joe, regarding the goals of his therapy. She expressed satisfaction over the fact that he has lost 21 lbs and is learning to deal with his anger, his ability to tolerate stress, and his ability to say no to various demands placed upon him. I requested that the therapy include an exploration into the area of sexuality. She stated that the appointment of Joe as temporary administrator of St. Rita Parish seemed to be a good thing in her judgement.

RJS

255. Collova, S. Joseph
On Tuesday, December 3, 1985 I called Joe to see how things were going. He was very clear about his position as temporary administrator, indicated that he had lost 29 lbs and was very happy with the way everything was going.

RJS

699. Collova, Joseph

I received and read his periodic review done on April 9, 1981 by Father Hudziak. The review was done rather skillfully and points to problems in his various assignments leading up to the present conclusion that some type of outside help is necessary. I understand that he has already begun to see [redacted] and will be moving to another assignment this spring.

4/22/81

37. Collova, Joseph

He was a little milder than he seemed to be in the letter that he wrote to me although he has a hard time accepting the fact that Father Pulice is the new pastor at St. James. He has gotten into a bit of trouble with some of the parish council members because he terminated the services of Father Bruce Clanton. He said matters were compounded when these same people insisted that he allow Clanton to concelebrate at one of the Christmas masses only to have Clanton show up in his clown suit and with a santa claus doll. Collova admits he does not know how to handle crisis situations like that without coming on awfully strong. It looks to me like he does need a vacation and some counseling. He agreed to see [redacted] who has known him in the past. I told him that if some kind of communication could be achieved between him and Pulice, it might be possible for him to stick out the assignment at least until summer. Basically, he is worried that Pulice will be led more by the opinions of some of the power people on the parish council rather than by Collova's advice. He left on a fairly happy note although I could tell he was very excited and agitated. I suggested he seriously try to lose some weight and he agreed that that was necessary.

1/12/82

54. Collova, Joseph

[redacted] called me to say that he has seen Collova and recommends that he be transferred from his position at St. James. This is because of what he has said to Pulice and how he feels about Pulice. [redacted] suggests that if we do move him, it be done very quickly or he might have a chance to sit on the sidelines and feel sorry for himself and maybe even leave the priesthood. I told [redacted] that I had hoped that this would work out until spring at least and [redacted] admitted this was a possibility.

1/16/82

198. Collova, Joseph

He called me to request permission for alternate residency. All the criteria of the policy have been met and he will live at [redacted] Franklin 53132. Telephone: [redacted] He seemed to be in very good spirits and says that things are working out well between him and Pulice. A handful of people still resent the dismissal of Bruce Clanton.

3/1/82

222. Collova, Joseph

[redacted] called as a parishioner to complain about alternate residency for Collova. He said that the apartment is going to cost Collova over $400 per month and he objects to the parish furnishing this. I recommended that he talk to the parish council which approved the funding.

3/8/82

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

CHANCERY

April 12, 2003

MEMO CONCERNING THE REVEREND S. JOSEPH COLLOVA

Approximately ten years ago an accusation of sexual abuse by Fr. Collova against a minor was brought to the attention of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. A file documenting various matters concerning this situation already exists.

The purpose of this memo is to outline activity that has taken place during the past year.

1. During the Spring of 2002, Fr. Collova decided to seek a dispensation from all obligations attached to Holy Orders including celibacy, and to be reduced to the lay state (laicization). Soon thereafter, Fr. Collova met with Fr. Jim Connell to begin this process. During that meeting Fr. Collova indicated a strong reluctance to involve other people in the process, especially as witnesses. He asked if he could simple write to the Pope and receive the laicization. Actually, stories had been surfacing that some diocesan bishops had been able to obtain a laicization for a priest using this technique, thus without using the usual process. After some weeks of consideration and study, it was decided to use this approach, along with certain supporting materials, and Fr. Connell proceeded to prepare the documentation.

2. During the intervening time, Archbishop Weakland's resignation was accepted and Bishop Skiba was chosen to serve as the diocesan administrator. Hence, and in his capacity as the diocesan administrator, on August 16, 2002 Bishop Skiba signed his *votum* for the case and on August 19, 2002 the documents considered appropriate were sent to Rome.

3. On December 11, 2002 the Chancery Office received from Archbishop Dolan a letter from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (dated November 18, 2002) in which the Holy See indicates that the case will not go forward until the information required for the usual laicization process is received by them.

4. Fr. Connell met with Fr. Collova on January 20, 2003, obtaining his deposition. Fr. Collova also identified three priests of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee who would be willing to serve as witnesses. During the next month, Fr. Connell obtained depositions from these priests: [redacted] on February 5th, [redacted] on February 18th, and [redacted] on February 19th.

5. As a result of these interviews and especially based on the testimony of Fr. Collova, Fr. Connell began to doubt that Fr. Collova truly wants a laicization. For example, when asked why he was seeking a laicization, he responded: "I believe that I don't have any other alternative What alternative do I have? I see nowhere else to go. ... Nobody

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here will talk to me." Moreover, when asked if his decision to leave the priesthood was final, he responded: "I guess in a very real way, yes. It's final but it's not firm. I don't know how else to say that."

6. In addition, throughout these ten years Fr. Collova has had very little assistance from a canon lawyer. This is especially true for the past year. Therefore, most likely Fr. Collova does not understand his rights vis-à-vis church law, especially in light of the Charter and related Essential Norms.

7. Fr. Connell telephoned Fr. Collova on March 11, 2003 to seek clarification about Fr. Collova's mind. Does he really want to seek laicization? Fr. Collova said that he does want to go forward with the process so as "to put to rest the internal unrest" that he has experienced for approximately ten years. Fr. Connell agreed to proceed.

8. However, on March 13, 2003 Fr. Collova telephoned Fr. Connell to say that he has changed his mind and that he does not want to continue with the laicization, that family members and friends have convinced him that he should not do it, at least not at the present time. Rather, Fr. Collova indicated that he plans to contact a canon lawyer and that he would rather wait and see what develops. Fr. Connell told him that most probably a summary of his case would be sent to Rome to get direction from the Holy See as to what should be the next step. Fr. Collova registered surprise at this news but still said that he wants to stop the laicization process.

9. Therefore, it is recommended that Archbishop Dolan write to Fr. Collova indicating what will happen now. This letter (perhaps as an individual precept) also should indicate what Fr. Collova is allowed to do and what he cannot do. Perhaps a letter should also be sent to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments updating them about Fr. Collova's decision.

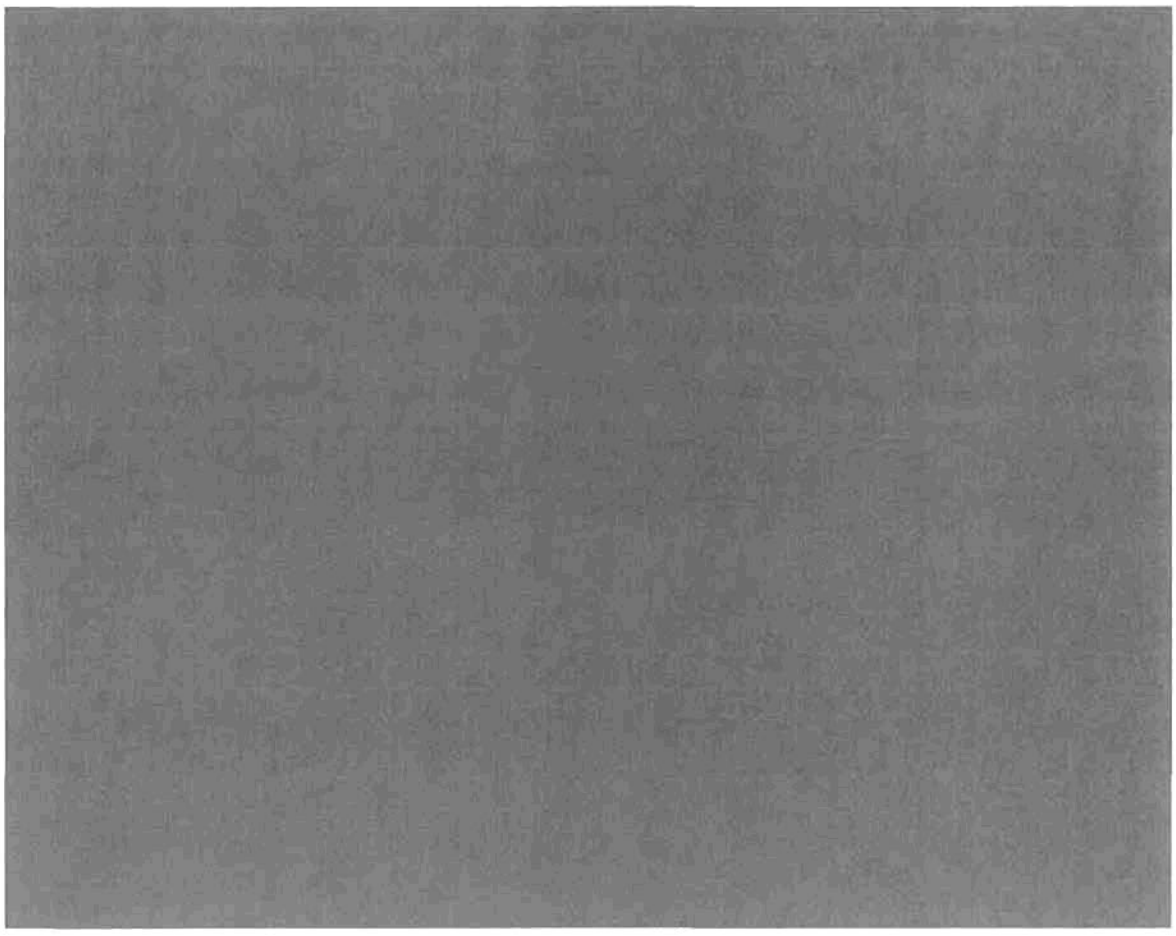
Reverend James E. Connell

Monday, October 14, 2002
Columbus Day

Dr Barbara Rienke
C/o Project Benjamin
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Dear Dr Reinke,

Approximately ten years ago this coming December, I was accused of sexual "impropriety"; my case went to court three times and each time it was dismissed. I have been in clerical limbo since. With the recent disclosures of multiple cover-ups especially of the Archbishop and my first pastor, Rev Edmund Haen, I requested laicization. Before I leave the ministry, I must, however, "clear the air" and reveal to your office what I do know as fact and what I saw. For the last time, I unequivocally and categorically deny any sexual abuse or impropriety on my part; however, I did witness such activity. I have never reported any of this because no one ever asked me. I take it that was what was asked for at Dallas and, hence, this letter. There was always a "grapevine" with reports of priests by priests of what each other was doing almost as though this were a "rite of passage" but like many of us I disregarded this all as "hearsay"; like many I wanted no association with anything that remotely looked like deviancy or perversion. And then the following happened:



[redacted]

With this note I bring closure to the whole sick mess that is part and parcel of ministerial life in the Roman Catholic Church as I experienced it. The Dallas Declaration is proof for me of how sick the leadership was, is, and continues to be with regard to abuse. The lack of honesty and integrity at the highest levels in the Milwaukee Archdiocese is equally appalling. While some decry the criminality of sexual abuse of minors, the same clergy have for years broken their sacred vows and continue to live in the illusion that those sins can be concealed forever. Some of Rembert's public remarks were directly slated toward priests. Case in point, the Spring Clergy Assembly, May 1993.

[redacted]

Do what you want with this information but please do me the favor of never contacting me for any reason. This is just another step in bringing my clerical life to a close. All of what I have relayed to you is well known by many, many priests, but they all have so much to loose! I've lost my mom, name, reputation, parish, ministry, and most benefits! These past almost 10 years have been agonizing but as more and more is brought to light with regard to what's happened and continues to happen here, it will become so good to see the hypocrites and liars fall from their high places to re-discover the true meaning of honesty and integrity!

Sincerely,

S Joseph Collova

cc: Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, Apostolic Nuncio
Archbishop Harry Flynn, Sexual Abuse Chair NCCB

CATHOLIC
SOCIAL
SERVICES
of the Archdiocese
of Milwaukee, Inc.

FILE COPY

DATE: September 24, 1993

TO: Archbishop Rembert Weakland

FROM: Elizabeth C. Piasecki, Psy.D.
Coordinator, Archdiocesan
Response to Sexual Abuse

RE: Rev. Joseph Collova

Two issues of concern:

1) I am very concerned about exposure regarding the safety of the community. Father Collova continues to live on the East Side. He has maintained his old contacts, etc. Because of his uncooperativeness and his denial, we have no present assurances that Father Collova does not continue to sexually act out with minors.

 I would strongly recommend that you require that Father Collova enter into a program of supervision and out-patient therapy as long as he draws a paycheck from any funds controlled by the Archdiocese. Supervision could occur in several ways:

 a) The Archdiocese could hire a credentialed sex offender specialist (e.g. [redacted] to formally supervise Father Collova much as they would any convicted sex offender. Father Collova's compensation could be dependent upon cooperation with one of these authorities. Perhaps there are other canonical sanctions that could also be imposed if he chooses not to cooperate.

 b) He could report to an internal monitor (e.g. Father Len Barbian) with sanctions unless he reported in. Father Barbian could consult with a perpetrator specialist or myself regarding how to set up and conduct such a program.

2) It has also been brought to my attention by Father Paul Janette that St. Rita's requires some kind of parish closure to this issue. Father Paul has indicated that many of the parishioners would like to know what has happened in terms of an investigation, etc. Perhaps something needs to be done regarding completing the process at St. Rita's. I'm unclear as to the status of an internal investigation. Perhaps we need to discuss the results of that and what to do next in terms of the parish.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on extension 436.

ECP:bk

cc: Bishop Richard Skiba
Rev. Tom Venne
Tom Schneider

3501 South Lake Drive
P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee,
WI 53207-0912
414/769-3400
FAX 414/769-3408

United Way

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
CHANCERY

COPY

August 19, 2002

The Most Reverend Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio to the United States
The Apostolic Nunciature
3339 Massachusetts. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3687

Your Excellency,

Enclosed are three copies of the petition from the Reverend Salvatore Joseph Collova to His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, asking to be reduced to the lay state and requesting a dispensation from all the obligations attached to Holy Orders, including that of celibacy.

I request that these copies of this petition be forwarded to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments by means of the diplomatic pouch.

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter, and I have the honor to be,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. James E. Connell

Reverend James E. Connell
Vice Chancellor

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 070912, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912
PHONE: (414)769-3340 • FAX: (414)769-3408 • E-MAIL: chancery@archmil.org • WEB SITE: www.archmil.org

Petitioner:	Reverend Salvatore Joseph Collova
Residence Address:	[redacted] Dousman, Wisconsin 53118 U.S.A. (Archdiocese of Milwaukee)
Residence Telephone:	[redacted]
Diocese of Incardination:	Archdiocese of Milwaukee

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Friday, May 31, 2002
Feast of the Visitation

Most Holy Father
Pope John Paul II
Vatican City State
Rome, Italy

Dear Holy Father,

For the past nine (9) years, I have been struggling with an immeasurable inner pain that resulted from an allegation of "sexual impropriety" that I flatly and unequivocally denied; my case went to court no less than three (3) times and each time it was dismissed; I hoped against hope that I could eventually return to some sort of priestly ministry; I recently met with the Archbishop Weakland, osb (say no more) and it was decided that I could not at this time. I have spent the past nine (9) and one half years doing everything from delivering auto parts to managing a day labor service employing the dregs of humanity in a way that made me feel more like a priest than I ever had in eighteen (18) years of active parochial ministry. I can no longer continue in this limbo.
When I needed the Archdiocese, I was treated as an outcast and a liability; a year ago March 16th, 2001 I had an angiogram and two (2) stents were implanted in the lower artery of my heart; I am sluggish and have slowed down considerably; with the advent of my surgery, the Archdiocese, without even having the common courtesy of informing me, discontinued my housing allowance; this single act gave me the impression that it's time to leave the priesthood. I have decided to request laicization so that I can get on with the little there may be with my life.

Thank you, Holy Father, for listening to my situation and I humbly beg Your Holiness to relieve me of my priestly duties and vows.

Sincerely,

Rev S Joseph Collova
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Votum of the Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop and Administrator of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE AUXILIARY BISHOP

August 16, 2002

His Eminence, Jorge Cardinal Arturo Medina Estevez
Prefect, The Congregation for Divine Worship and
The Discipline of the Sacraments
00120 Vatican City State
Europe

Your Eminence,

May I respectfully submit herewith to the judgement of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments the attached petition of the Reverend Salvatore Joseph Collova, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, to be dispensed from all obligations attached to sacred orders, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state.

Salvatore Joseph Collova
Age: 54 (born: May 10, 1948)
Ordained a priest: May 30, 1976, by the Most Reverend William E. Cousins, then the Archbishop of Milwaukee
Date assigned to active ministry: June 15, 1976
Date of resignation from active ministry: March 31, 1993.

In December 1992, a member of our archdiocesan staff received a telephone call from a gentleman who claimed that approximately ten years earlier Father Collova had sexually molested him. This gentleman also filed civil and criminal charges against Father Collova in state court. Arrangements were made to assure that Father Collova had access to a civil attorney as well as a canon lawyer.

Immediately, we conducted a preliminary investigation and determined that the allegations seemed to have merit. In early 1993, Father Collova agreed to take a personal leave of absence and not exercise priestly ministry in a public forum. In addition, Father Collova agreed to undergo an extensive psychological evaluation. An initial psychological evaluation of Father Collova was conducted at St. Luke Institute in Silver Spring, Maryland, but with inconclusive results. Soon thereafter, Father Collova entered a counseling program at the St. Michael Community in St. Louis, Missouri, but he left that program after only a few months and went to live with his sister in Minnesota.

In September 1993, Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki, a psychologist employed by our Catholic Charities, wrote a memo to the Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B., then the Archbishop of Milwaukee, in which she registered concern because Father Collova was

once again living in Milwaukee, and she felt that he might continue to act out sexually with minors. A copy of this memo is enclosed for you review.

On February 7, 1995, Dr. Piasecki wrote to Archbishop Weakland, among others, in which she documents an earlier interview she had with Father Collova and she identifies statements that were made by Father Collova about the allegation, some of which are self-incriminating. A copy of this memo is enclosed for your review.

Shortly thereafter, on February 16, 1995, Archbishop Weakland wrote a letter to Father Collova outlining all of the information that had been discovered to that point in time, including various examples of inappropriate sexual behavior. Clearly, the need for a more thorough psychological evaluation was present. A copy of this letter is enclosed for your review.

In 1997, Father Collova entered Southdown in Aurora, Ontario, Canada for the necessary evaluation. At the conclusion of that evaluation, and in the presence of Father Collova, a report meeting was conducted. Dr. Piasecki's memo concerning that meeting is enclosed for you review. However, confidentiality requirements prohibit me from sending you a copy of the final written report. Yet, I may say that the consulting clinical psychologist reported that Father Collova suffers from a psychological disorder in that there is a lack of maturity of certain of his personality functions as they relate to sexuality. The relationship between his cognitive function sexual behavior and personality function needs further exploration. Thus, the psychologist concludes, it would not be appropriate to assign Father Collova to ministry.

Finally, concerning the truthfulness of the original allegation, a couple of points need to be made. First, the actions brought in the state court were eventually dismissed because the statute of limitations (the time limit for legal recourse) had expired, thus prohibiting the court from ruling on his guilt or innocence. Second, Father Collova denies the specific allegation of sexual abuse. However, Father Collova's civil attorney admitted to the Archbishop Weakland in a letter dated September 30, 1997 (a letter in which the attorney is wanting to arrange financial assistance for Father Collova), that the priest "has admitted to some behavior in the past which was inconsistent with his vocation." A copy of this letter is enclosed for your review.

Based on the information at hand, Archbishop Weakland concluded and I continue to concur that the original allegation is most likely true.

As I stated above, early in 1993, at the time that Father Collova was granted a personal leave, he agreed not to exercise priestly ministry in a public forum. However, during the early months of 1998 Archbishop Weakland learned that in fact Father Collova was celebrating Mass at a parish. Archbishop Weakland spoke with the pastor of that parish about the matter.

Archbishop Weakland gave serious consideration to initiating a penal process against Father Collova in our Ecclesiastical Tribune. Yet, fear of generating real scandal coupled

with Father Collova's expressed interest in seeking from the Holy Father a dispensation from all obligations attached to sacred orders, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state, lead Archbishop Weakland to decide against the church penal process. Obviously, it has taken Father Collova a rather lengthy time to actually submit this request to the Holy Father. In fact, there have been other occasions when we thought he was going to do so, but he did not.

There is one additional matter. I realize that Father Collova claims the contrary, but throughout the years since the allegation was made in 1992, we have been providing financial assistance to Father Collova as his needs require and considering the status of his civil employment. In fact, we have been and presently continue to pay for his psychological counseling, health insurance premium and pension. We will continue to monitor the situation.

No doubt, given the data at hand, I cannot now or at time in the future assign Father Collova to priestly ministry. In addition, I could not recommend him to our next archbishop nor to any other bishop. As a result, I support Father Collova's desire for a dispensation from all his priestly obligations, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state. Not only am I convinced that the dispensation would not cause scandal, it actually would help to bring closure to a very difficult situation.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this regard and I have the honor to be, Your Eminence,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop and Archdiocesan Administrator

Curriculum Vitae

May 10, 1948:	Born to Giuseppe Collova and Rosina Emanuele; their fourth and last child, second son.
June 6, 1948:	Baptized by the Rev Dante Orsi, cs at St Rita's Catholic Church, Milwaukee, WI' Oreste & Annetta Zanoni, godparents.
May 20, 1955:	Received First Holy Communion at St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI from the hands of Rev Salvino Zanon, cs.
March 6, 1960:	Received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI by Bishop Roman Atkielski, DD, auxiliary bishop of Milwaukee.
May 3, 1975:	Ordained to the Diaconate in the Cathedral Church of St John the Evangelist. Milwaukee, WI by Archbishop William E Cousins, DD.
May 30, 1976:	Ordained to the Priesthood in the Mater Christi Chapel of the Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center by Archbishop William E Cousins, DD.
July 1, 1976:	Assigned to St James Church in Mequon, WI as Associate Pastor. Rev Edmund Haen, Pastor. (Proven Child Molester)
June 15, 1977:	Assigned to Holy Apostles Church, New Berlin, WI as Associate Pastor. Rev James R Johnson, Pastor.
June 15, 1981:	Assigned to St James Church, Franklin, WI as Associate Pastor. Rev John J Pulice, Pastor.
November, 1985:	Appointed Administrator Pro Temp at St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI by Archbishop Rembert Weakland, osb.
May 30, 1986:	Appointed Pastor of St Rita's Church, Milwaukee, WI by Archbishop Rembert Weakland, osb.
January 6, 1993:	Informed by the Vicar for Clergy, Rev Thomas Venne, that an allegation of sexual impropriety was leveled against me.
April 1, 1993:	Removed as Pastor of St Rita's' have been unable to function publicly since this date.

Memo dated September 24, 1993 from Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki to Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Inc.

FILE COPY

DATE: September 24, 1993

TO: Archbishop Rembert Weakland

FROM: Elizabeth C. Piasecki, Psy.D.
Coordinator, Archdiocesan
Response to Sexual Abuse

RE: Rev. Joseph Collova

Two issues of concern:

1) I am very concerned about exposure regarding the safety of the community. Father Collova continues to live on the East Side. He has maintained his old contacts, etc. Because of his uncooperativeness and his denial, we have no present assurances that Father Collova does not continue to sexually act out with minors. [redacted]

I would strongly recommend that you require that Father Collova enter into a program of supervision and out-patient therapy as long as he draws a paycheck from any funds controlled by the Archdiocese. Supervision could occur in several ways:

a) The Archdiocese could hire a credentialed sex offender specialist (e.g. [redacted] to formally supervise Father Collova much as they would any convicted sex offender. Father Collova's compensation could be dependent upon cooperation with one of these authorities. Perhaps there are other canonical sanctions that could also be imposed if he chooses not to cooperate.

b) He could report to an internal monitor (e.g. Father Len Barbian) with sanctions unless he reported in. Father Barbian could consult with a perpetrator specialist or myself regarding how to set up and conduct such a program.

2) It has also been brought to my attention by Father Paul Janette that St. Rita's requires some kind of parish closure to this issue. Father Paul has indicated that many of the parishioners would like to know what has happened in terms of an investigation, etc. Perhaps something needs to be done regarding completing the process at St. Rita's. I'm unclear as to the status of an internal investigation. Perhaps we need to discuss the results of that and what to do next in terms of the parish.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on extension 436.

ECP:bk

cc: Bishop Richard Sklba
Rev. Tom Venne
Tom Schneider

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P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee,
WI 53207-0912
414/769-3400
FAX 414/769-3408

Memo dated February 7, 1995 from Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki to Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B., and others

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

75 YEARS OF CARING
1920-1995

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: February 7, 1995

TO: Archbishop Rembert Weakland, O.S.B.
Bishop Richard Skiba
Rev. Carrol Straub

RE: Rev. Joseph Collova
Allegations of Sexual Misconduct with Minors

On March 2, 1993 I interviewed Fr. Collova at his request regarding allegations of sexual misconduct brought by Mr. [redacted] Mr. [redacted] alleged that he had been sexually abused by Fr. Collova as a minor. Fr. Collova was very aware that my client was the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and that any disclosures he made to me would be shared with the appropriate personnel at the Archdiocese.

In the course of that interview, Fr. Collova denied the following:

1) that he is a homosexual;
2) that he is a pedophile;
3) that he has had gay friends, including gay priests, in the rectory;
4) that he had [redacted] masturbate him as alleged;
5) that he has any current cases.

Fr. Collova admitted the following:

1) He (Fr. Collova) engaged in mutual masturbation with [redacted] Claims [redacted] was an adult.
2) He (Fr. Collova) has "poor boundaries." In this regard, he admitted he took minors "cruising" in his car and on vacation. Fr. Collova claimed "kids were all over me and my body." Fr. Collova said that there were incidents in which he would be sleeping on his stomach and would wake to find [redacted] and others with "pliers moving up his body toward his anus." This happened more than once and included other implements.
3) Fr. Collova admitted being asleep in bed with [redacted] and waking up to find [redacted] "hugging him and wanting to hold him." Fr. Collova described [redacted] as the sexual aggressor. [redacted] was a minor.
4) Fr. Collova was questioned by the Franklin police while he was assigned to St. James about the sexual abuse of a minor. The minor alleged that Fr. Collova "grabbed his front and back (genitals and buttocks). Fr. Collova claimed he was fingered because he caught the young man stealing food.

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Catholic Charities USA

5) Fr. Collova admitted he has played "grunge" with minor males, pulling up on each other's underwear until it hurts.
6) Fr. Collova admitted that he discussed erections and patterns of erectile response with minors in group sessions on retreat. Fr. Collova saw nothing inappropriate in this behavior: "all priests do that."
7) Fr. Collova admitted to having one young man whom he knew as a minor and who is reported by [redacted] to be gay, [redacted] at St. Rita's.
8) No information about the masturbation incident with [redacted] or the above admissions were given to St. Luke's Institute prior to his evaluation there.

Fr. Collova was very upset and angry and expressed a desire to sue the Archdiocese. At times, he said he felt suicidal and didn't know if he wished to remain a priest. The feelings, Fr. Collova said, predated these allegations.

Elizabeth C. Piasecki, Psy.D.
Licensed Psychologist
Coordinator, Archdiocesan Response
to Sexual Abuse

ECP:bk

Letter dated February 16, 1995 from Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B., to the Reverend S. Joseph Collova

Copies also to: Bishop Sklba
Rev. James Jarumbo
Vicar for Clergy Person
Chancery
Dr. Liz Piasecki

17.

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE
3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. Box 07912 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

FEB 17 1995

February 16, 1995

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova
[redacted]
Muskego, Wisconsin 53150-8706

Dear Joe,

I know that you are eager to receive an assignment, even before the lawsuit against you is solved. As I understand the situation, it is still in the Appeals Court. The case is being tried on the grounds of expiration of the statute of limitations and not on whether the event happened or not.

In this letter I would like to point out the difficulties on my part for such an assignment. I have to answer to the people of the Archdiocese, so that if you receive an assignment I can say that there is no risk involved to our people and especially to our young people. Since the lawsuit is a public matter, I must also act responsibly and be able to defend publicly the act of giving you an assignment as an active priest in this Archdiocese. I must be able to say publicly what I have done to make sure that there are no - or at least minimum - risks involved.

Let me go down through the evidence as I see and know it. Let me point out what I know and then what questions and anxieties arise in my mind that will have to be dealt with.

1. During my first years here, while you were at Holy Apostles (therefore, before 1981), a college seminarian came to me to relate that you had propositioned him. I talked with you at that time and you did not deny the fact. My recollection is that the young man was in his late teens.

2. The log is full of difficulties that you experienced at your second assignment at St. James. At your request, these led to the evaluation at Wausau in March of 1985. That evaluation shows you struggling with vocation issues and self-identity questions.

3. In May of 1985, you were accused of molesting a fourteen-year-old at St. James. This case went to the office of the District Attorney of Milwaukee, but no charges were brought and you denied that you had any sexual motives in your actions. You moved into therapy with Dr. [redacted] and to Bethany House.

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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 16, 1995

4. In December of 1992, Mary Kay Balchunas met with [redacted] who brought allegations about incidents while you were at St. James. He mentioned others who traveled in the same circle who would be coming forth with similar accusations. These did not come forward.

5. In January of 1993, you were sent for evaluation to the St. Luke Institute in Maryland. They concluded that you were not to be considered in the category of a pedophile, but they did point out that you were not able to set boundaries with younger people and engaged in much coarse physical play and grossly inappropriate behavior. They also pointed out your compulsive behavior and the lack of sexual integration. They reiterated the points of lack of self-confidence and self-worth that had arisen in the Wausau report.

6. On return, you met with Dr. Piasecki and talked about the lack of boundaries and specific incidents.

7. In April of 1993, you were sent to St. Michael's in St. Louis for residential treatment. They reported to us that you were much in denial. This was evident by your termination of treatment on your own in June of that year. They felt there was no cooperation in treatment and no rectification of adolescent behavior. Through this period there was much talk on your part about leaving the priesthood, but I decided that such a decision was premature and could only be made after the therapy. I refused to submit your request.

8. In May of 1993, we asked Mary Howard Johnstone to investigate for us the situation and especially the names mentioned by [redacted]. She did so after some time, as she experienced much difficulty in being able to talk to [redacted]. She interviewed four of those he mentioned. [redacted] brother, [redacted] also stated that there was genital and buttock grabbing. She also interviewed [redacted] and [redacted], as well as [redacted]. No serious allegations appeared in these interviews, but some boundary questions arose (mooning in Door County, etc.) and lack of professional behavior on your part, Joe. Mary Howard never submitted a written report. These results were phoned to Bishop Sklba in October of 1993.

ARCHDIOCESE
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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 16, 1995

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova -3

9. In December of 1993, the lawsuit was finally filed against the diocese and against you, Joe. It has dragged interminably, much to your and our distress.

The important point, Joe, is that the issues that were raised by all the above incidents and psychological reports have not been put to rest. I do not have in my conscience the assurance that I can just reassign you to ministry with all of that background unresolved. It might be true that the question of whether [redacted] was a minor when the events he alleges took place has not been resolved, but that is not the only question to be answered. There are still other issues that worry me.

These issues would be: Have the boundary issues been faced? According to the conversation with the personnel at St. Michael's, the answer would have to be no. The problem of adolescent and compulsive behavior remains. Can you minister to that late teenage group or will you fall back into previous patterns? What assurances would I have that the patterns that have been so evident in your whole priesthood and in all the assignments will not be repeated? Your refusal to complete the therapy at St. Michael's and their concern that you were in denial remain.

Secondly, the issue of vocation seems to have been dropped. Is it still to be considered an important question?

Wherever you would be assigned, Joe, I would have to answer publicly the first group of questions. These are not questions that can now be treated just between you and me. At present, I could not go before a parish council and say that I was at ease in making an assignment and that I could guarantee that any inappropriate behavior would not reoccur. What I need are the kinds of reasonable guarantees that would permit me to do just that.

As I understand Church Law, I do not have to give a priest an assignment. I know that the diocese is responsible for food, shelter, and medical care for its priests. We have done more than that in your case, but without cooperation on your part in clearing up the issues that I mentioned, issues that prevent me in conscience from giving you a priestly assignment.

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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 16, 1995

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova -4

I have tried to be clear in laying out my concerns. I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. [redacted] in the hopes that we can begin to work on these questions and bring them to a satisfactory resolution, so that I can obtain the necessary assurances that I need.

Peace.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

CC: Dr. [redacted]

Memo dated April 18, 1997 from Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki concerning the evaluation of Father Collova at Southdown

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
of the Archdiocese
of Milwaukee, Inc.

April 18, 1997

Notes Regarding: Conference Call/Feedback session, Southdown Treatment Facility
Evaluation of Father Joseph Collova

Conference Call: Dr [redacted]
Dr. Liz Piasecki
Bishop Richard Sklba

Present also at Southdown: Dr. Ruth Droege
Dr. Michael See
Fr. Joseph Collova

Reviewed presenting reasons for current evaluation: 1992 allegations by [redacted] question of reassignment and fitness for ministry.

Material reviewed by Southdown:
Wausau Report
St. Luke Institute Report
St. Michael report (treatment aborted)
Dr. [redacted] treatment goals, letter from and to Archbishop Weakland in her files

Behaviors raised in these materials, particularly St. Luke's: teenagers staying overnight in the rectory, teenagers accompanying Father Collova on vacation in the company of another adult, "roughhousing," and "locker-room behaviors."

Southdown personnel have studied all these materials for the current assessment. It appears to them from the St. Luke's report that Father Collova used the company of teenagers to give him a sense of acceptance, etc. No anal, oral, or other direct sexual actions were noted although the issue of compulsivity and the lack of sexual integration were noted. At the time of the St. Luke's evaluation, Father Collova reported he was having sexual fantasies toward adult men and adult women images on TV. Diagnosis from St. Luke's included Axis I: Psychosexual disorder Not Otherwise Specified with compulsive features.

Today, Father Collova reports that he is "heterosexual to bisexual." Southdown reports that his sexual issues need to be addressed in treatment, particularly regarding sexual orientation and immature adolescent behavior. Further exploration is needed regarding the integration of sexual issues. Southdown raised several of the same questions which the Archbishop had previously raised to [redacted] Specifically, have the boundary issues been addressed?

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Father Collova has been in treatment with Dr. [redacted] twice: in 1985 for a period of nine months, and from 1993 to the present. In the last period, she has established the following treatment goals for Father Collova:

1. Help with understanding and recognition of Father Collova's needs for affirmation and approval.
2. Help with anger issues.
3. Exploration of thoughts and feelings about priesthood.
4. Help with stress management, including learning to set personal limits within priesthood, including learning to say no.
5. Exploration of family of origin issues as they influence Father Collova's authority issues.

Dr. [redacted] reported that her treatment with Father Collova since the allegations were brought forth involved helping him to cope with the emotional, psychological, and spiritual stress brought on by the public lawsuit.

Southdown reported that they find that these goals of treatment do not address the adolescent and immature behaviors that relate to the sexual integration and orientation issues.

Southdown reported also that treatment seems to have operated out of the assumption that because St. Luke's did not give a diagnosis of pedophilia/ephebophilia that sexuality issues didn't need to be addressed in Dr. [redacted] work with Father Collova.

In the current evaluation, Father Collova admitted to the Southdown assessment team that he did fall asleep on the couch and that he would awake to finding teenagers using long probing objects in his anal area. He also admitted that he would fall asleep on the couch in his nightshirt and that a teenager would sleep on top of him. He still sees nothing inappropriate about any of these activities.

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There is evidence of more depression and paranoia in the present testing than there was in the previous testing at St. Luke's Institute. There is currently substantial reactive depression as well.

In addition, there is evidence of significant dependency needs, support from others, and low self-esteem. Father Collova is noted to place himself in the role of care giver and caretaker. The evaluators also note that Father Collova is significantly more immature than expected with noteworthy lapses in control and self-defeating behavior. They also note that Father Collova reacts to threats with externalization.

Other areas of concern besides immaturity and unintegrated sexuality include weight and smoking issues. Father Collova is now a diabetic with his fasting blood sugar at 177. There is considerable anger and negativity toward the Church which would require resolution before any assignment could be given. The assessors noted that Father Collova wishes to leave the priesthood, but has no plans on what to do further. Father Collova believes that his opportunities for employment are limited because he has such a public case. This leaves him feeling depressed and suicidal at times. When questioned by this writer on the change from demanding an assignment to now reporting that he wants to leave the priesthood, Father Collova said he couldn't deal with the "65 pages " of forms it takes to voluntarily laicize. Father Collova was confronted with the fact that he made an appointment with Father Connell and did not keep it. This writer also raised the issue of ongoing vocational instability as was noted in the Archbishop's letter to Dr. [redacted] Father Collova responded "I just want what is coming to me."

Southdown's recommendations included outpatient or residential treatment prior to any assignment.

Dx:

Axis I:	Adjustment Disorder with Depression
Axis II:	Dependent Personality Disorder with Obsessive-compulsive and self-defeating traits

Final written report is to follow.

ECP:saz

Letter dated September 30, 1997 from Attorney Paul J. Gossens to
Archbishop Rembert Weakland, O.S.B.

GOSSENS & GEORGE, S.C.
Attorneys At Law

SUITE 500
219 NORTH MILWAUKEE STREET
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53202
(414) 289-9400

Paul J. Gossens
Virginia E. George

September 30, 1997

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, OSB
Archbishop of Milwaukee
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

RE: Rev. S. Joseph Collova

Dear Excellency:

Reverend S. Joseph Collova has retained my services for the purposes of legally reviewing what if any claims he may have against the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, its employees, agents, attorneys or psychologists. He has asked that I communicate with you on his behalf.

It is my opinion that the interests of Father Collova, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, the members of the archdiocese and the public at large would best be served if this matter was resolved outside a public legal forum. For that reason I propose these discussions be held in the strictest confidence and not be communicated to the public.

Father Collova is 48 years of age and has spent his entire adult life and the preparation for that adult life as either a priest or seminarian. This encompasses approximately 34 years of his life.

All of his emotional, physical and intellectual needs have been molded and formed by his years of service for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

In the recent past he has been the object of interest in public and personal humiliation. He has admitted to some behavior in the past which was inconsistent with his vocation. At the same time he has denied any conduct as alleged in the recently dismissal lawsuit.

On two occasions he has been sent by the archdiocese to be evaluated. One of those evaluations at Saint Luke Institute included a physical and neurological exam including a CT brain scan. He also continues in personal counselling with a psychologist.

The physical exam results reveal a person with serious physical problems ranging from diabetes to excessive obesity which will result in severe adverse health consequences.

In addition to his physical limitations and problems, he has suffered intense, if not completely, debilitating financial consequences which render him personally financially bankrupt.

In short he is in a pathetic condition, both financially and physically.

On his behalf I would propose that in the event the archdiocese does not restore him to the active ministry, he be severed from the archdiocese and be afforded the benefits required to maintain a minimum standard of living in Milwaukee as required by any 48 year old employee who has been rendered unemployed after 34 years of service with a corporation.

I would suggest that he be given health insurance through the diocesan plan until he dies. In addition he should receive whatever pension he has accumulated when he reaches retirement age. Finally, I request that he be allotted the same pay that a priest of his age and experience would receive from the date of his severance until he reaches retirement age.

I do not wish to be argumentative or didactic. I do however wish to see the Christian and Catholic Social teaching take on a reality for someone who has dedicated his entire life to his archdiocese.

If the archdiocese has a with to resolve this matter along these lines, I would appreciate hearing from you or anyone delegated by you to act on behalf of the archdiocese.

May God continue to keep you in good health.

Very truly yours,

Paul J. Gossens

PJG:lu
cc: S. Joseph Collova

c:\wp51\docs\let\collova.arw

Precept dated March 4, 1998 by Archbishop Rembert Weakland, O.S.B.

REMBERTUS GEORGIUS

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia

Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

PRECEPT

In response to the pastoral needs of that portion of the People of God entrusted to my care, in virtue of the authority specified in canon 381, §1 and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I herewith bind Deacon Donald Wenzel with the following specific obligations:

1) To cease until further notice any exercise of diaconal ministry, any public functioning in the name of the Church, any public display of diaconal garb, and any liturgical ministry

2) To cease representation of diaconal services in the course of professional secular occupation and to cease the use of diaconal status in advertising

3) To do all that is possible to repair scandal and to avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality.

Any further actions in violation of these restriction on ministry, any public presentation of self in diaconal garb within the context of, at the site of, or in connection with secular employment or in any other situation, any further use of one's image or diaconal status in advertising, any additional scandal connected with marital difficulties, will result in canonical action not excluding dismissal from the clerical state.

The execution of this precept is entrusted to the Vicar for Clergy, Very Reverend Thomas Kerstein to be presented personally to Deacon Wenzel on Wednesday, March 4, 1998.

Given on the 4th day of March, 1998 in Milwaukee.

+Rembert G. Weakland

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Rev. James E. Connell

Ecclesiastical Notary

SAINT FRANCIS SEMINARY

OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

August 9, 2002

Reverend James E. Connell
Vice Chancellor
Archdiocese of Milwaukee
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Dear Jim,

As you requested, I have reviewed the seminary file of the Reverend Salvatore Joseph Collova for information that might be appropriate for his petition for a dispensation from the obligations of sacred orders, including that of celibacy.

The records in his file demonstrate that Joseph was ordained a priest on May 30, 1976 by the Most Reverend William E. Cousins, Archbishop of Milwaukee. Furthermore, the file shows that Joseph was a good seminarian with no disciplinary problems. In addition, he had a good academic record, and demonstrated genuine piety and good morals.

Finally, the file includes the usual documents to demonstrate his free will decision to request Holy Orders.

Photocopies of some of the items in Joseph's file have been made for your use. If you wish anything further, I will be happy to comply.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Reverend Michael G. Witczak
Rector

MGW

3257 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE ST. FRANCIS, WISCONSIN 53235 414 747-6400

Transcription of the following two pages.

The Holy Sacrament of Baptism
This is to certify
That Salvatore Joseph Collova
The son of Joseph
And Rose Emanuele
Born in Milwaukee on May 10, 1948
Was baptized on June 6, 1948 in the Church of
St. Rita, Milwaukee
According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church
By Rev. Dante Orse
Sponsors were Ereste Zunom
And Annetta Zunadi
As recorded in the Baptismal Register of this church.
Rev. Italo Scola Pastor
Date June 15, 1967

First Communion May 20 1956
Rev S. Zanon

Confirmation March 6, 1960
Excellency Bishop
Roman L. Atkielski



Going therefore, teach ye all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28-19

The Holy Sacrament of Baptism

This Is to Certify

That [illegible]
The Son / The Daughter } of [illegible]
and [illegible]
born in [illegible] CITY on [illegible] 19[illegible]
was Baptized on [illegible] 19[illegible] in the Church of [illegible], [illegible] CITY
according to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church
by Rev. [illegible]
Sponsors were [illegible]
and [illegible]
as recorded in the Baptismal Register of this church.

SEAL OF CHURCH

[illegible] Pastor

Date [illegible]

Symbol—The fishes, or souls of the faithful, seek Baptism at font, then enter basket, or Church.

Form No. 56 © Benziger Brothers, Inc., 1950 Made in U.S.A.

NOTATIONS

FIRST COMMUNION

May 20, 1956
[illegible]

CONFIRMATION

May 6, 1966
St. Clara Parish
[illegible]

MARRIAGE

SUBDIACONATE

RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

SAINT FRANCIS SEMINARY

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Oath of Freedom

I, the undersigned Salvatore Joseph Collova, in presenting to the Bishop my petition for the reception of the Priesthood, as the time for the sacred ordination is near at hand, having carefully considered the matter before God, do upon my oath testify in the first place that I am urged by no sort of compulsion or force or fear in receiving the aforesaid sacred order, but that I do spontaneously desire and of my own full and free will wish to receive the same, because I know and feel that I am truly called by God.

I acknowledge that I know fully all the burdens and other consequences which flow from the said sacred order, and these I freely wish and propose to assume: and with the grace of God I resolve to keep them most faithfully during my whole life.

I declare especially that I am clearly aware of what the law of celibacy entails; and I firmly resolve with the help of God to fulfill that law willingly and to keep it in its entirety until the end.

Finally, I sincerely promise that I shall always, according to the sacred canons, obey most exactly all the precepts of my Superiors and whatever the discipline of the Church requires, being prepared to give an example of virtue either in work or in word, so that I may deserve to be rewarded by God for the assumption of so great an office.

This I promise, this I vow, this I swear, so help me God and these sacred Gospels which I touch with my hand.

Salvatore Joseph Collova

Dated this 25th day of May, 1976

OATH OF SERVICE

I, Salvatore Joseph Collova, duly aware of the directive of canon 981 of the Code of Canon Law, by which it is ordered that those who are ordained to the title of service to a diocese must, by oath, swear perpetual service to that diocese, do promise and swear that I will render perpetual service to the Diocese of Milwaukee under the authority of the Ordinary of the aforementioned diocese for the rest of my life.

So help me God and these Holy Gospels which I touch with my hand. I sign my name below in affirmation of this oath.

Salvatore Joseph Collova
Candidate for the Diaconate

Dated this 2nd day of May, in the year 1975.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

I, the undersigned, testify in the presence of the Lord, that Mr. S. Joseph Collova, a student of St. Francis Seminary School of Pastoral Ministry and a candidate for the Order of Diaconate, executed the Oath printed above on the date inscribed above in my presence with the proper ceremony.

I sign below in affirmation.

William J. Sebesik
Rector

Given at St. Francis, Wisconsin.

Dated this 2 day of May, in the year 1975.

SAINT FRANCIS SEMINARY
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Oath of Freedom

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This I promise, this I vow, this I swear, so help me God and these sacred Gospels which I touch with my hand.

Salvatore Joseph Collova

Dated this 2nd day of May, 1975

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

CHANCERY

CERTIFICATE AUTHENCATING THE ACTS

CASE: Reverend Salvatore Joseph Collova

By these present, I certify that the acts of the above-captioned case contained herein are either original writings or exact duplicates of original writings and form authentic acts of this case to be transmitted to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments.

Rev. James E. Connell

Reverend James E. Connell, J.C.D.
Vice Chancellor and Notary

Given at the Curia of the
Archdiocese of Milwaukee on
this 19th day of August, 2002

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 070912, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912
PHONE: (414)769-3340 • FAX: (414)769-3408 • E-MAIL: chancery@archmil.org • WEB SITE: www.archmil.org

3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3687

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 16.023

This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

August 23, 2001

Dear Father Connell:

I acknowledge your kind letter of August 19, 2001, with enclosure.

Rest assured that the correspondence regarding the petition of the **Reverend** Salvatore Joseph **Collova** for laicization and a dispensation from all the obligations attached to Holy Orders, including that of celibacy will be duly forwarded to His Eminence Jorge Arturo Cardinal Medina Estevez, Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments.

With cordial regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Gabriel Montalvo

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio

Reverend James E. Connell
Vice Chancellor
P. O. Box 070912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

March 26, 2002
Tuesday in Holy Week

Most Holy Father
Pope John Paul II
Vatican City State
Rome, Italy

Dear Holy Father,

For the past nine (9) years, I have been struggling with an immeasurable inner pain that resulted from an allegation of "sexual impropriety" that I flatly and unequivocally denied; my case went to court no less than three (3) times and each time it was dismissed; I hoped against hope that I could eventually return to some sort of priestly ministry; I recently met with the Archbishop and it was decided that I could not at this time. I have spent the past nine (9) and one half years doing everything from delivering auto parts to managing a day labor service employing the dregs of humanity in a way that made me feel more like a priest than I ever had in eighteen (18) years of active parochial ministry. I can no longer continue in this limbo.
When I needed the Archdiocese, I was treated as an outcast and a liability; a year ago March 16th, 2001 I had an angiogram and two (2) stents were implanted in the lower artery of my heart; I am sluggish and have slowed down considerably; with the advent of my surgery, the Archdiocese, without even having the common courtesy of informing me, discontinued my housing allowance; this single act gave me the impression that it's time to leave the priesthood and not continue being a burden on the Archdiocese. Following my meeting with the Archbishop this past March 3rd, 2002, I have decided to request laicization so that I can get on with the little there may be with my life.
Thank you, Holy Father, for listening to my situation and I humbly beg Your Holiness to relieve me of my priestly duties and vows.

Sincerely,

Rev S Joseph Collova
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

July 16, 2003
Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Most Holy Father
Pope John Paul II
Vatican City State
Rome, Italy

Dear Holy Father,

It's time to go; I can no longer continue as a priest in the Latin Church that has victimized me for the past ten (10) years. For these past years, I have lost my mother, my name, my parish, and my public ministry. This was all at the hands of a six-time criminal and an Ordinary whose non-exemplary life and ministry simply dismissed me as a "persona non grata". I am tired of it all, Holy Father, and cannot continue to be treated as a "piranha" by the new Ordinary and all the homosexual clergy that were empowered by the previous Ordinary. I am presently exploring my reception into another ecclesial community that hasn't compromised the Gospel or its own law to the extent the present Church in Southeastern Wisconsin has. I refuse to be a part of the continued dishonesty by clergy of this Archdiocese who do and continue to frequent the gay clubs, bars, bookstores and such; in this Archdiocese it would seem that the vow of celibacy, the virtue of chastity, and, above all, the level of honesty is so sorely lacking that I cannot continue to be part of it! There are not enough pages to this request that would even encompass the cruelty and victimization I have received at the hands of these so called "brother priests". Brothers they have never been and it has finally impacted my life significantly!

Thank you, Holy Father, for listening to my situation and I humbly beg Your Holiness to relieve me of my priestly duties and vows as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

S Joseph Collova
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

CATHOLIC
SOCIAL
SERVICES

75 YEARS OF CARING
1920-1995

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: February 7, 1995

TO: Archbishop Rembert Weakland, O.S.B.
Bishop Richard Skiba
Rev. Carrol Straub

RE: Rev. Joseph Collova
Allegations of Sexual Misconduct with Minors

On March 2, 1993 I interviewed Fr. Collova at his request regarding allegations of sexual misconduct brought by Mr. [redacted] Mr. [redacted] alleged that he had been sexually abused by Fr. Collova as a minor. Fr. Collova was very aware that my client was the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and that any disclosures he made to me would be shared with the appropriate personnel at the Archdiocese.

In the course of that interview, Fr. Collova denied the following:

1) that he is a homosexual;
2) that he is a pedophile;
3) that he has had gay friends, including gay priests, in the rectory;
4) that he had [redacted] masturbate him as alleged;
5) that he has any current cases.

Fr. Collova admitted the following:

1) He (Fr. Collova) engaged in mutual masturbation with '[redacted] Claims [redacted] was an adult.
2) He (Fr. Collova) has "poor boundaries." In this regard, he admitted he took minors "cruising" in his car and on vacation. Fr. Collova claimed "kids were all over me and my body." Fr. Collova said that there were incidents in which he would be sleeping on his stomach and would wake to find [redacted] and others with "pliers moving up his body toward his anus." This happened more than once and included other implements.
3) Fr. Collova admitted being asleep in bed with [redacted] and waking up to find [redacted] "hugging him and wanting to hold him." Fr. Collova described [redacted] as the sexual aggressor. [redacted] was a minor.
4) Fr. Collova was questioned by the Franklin police while he was assigned to St. James about the sexual abuse of a minor. The minor alleged that Fr. Collova "grabbed his front and back (genitals and buttocks). Fr. Collova claimed he was fingered because he caught the young man stealing food.

3501 South Lake Drive
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Milwaukee,
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FAX 414/769-3408

Member
Catholic Charities USA

5) Fr. Collova admitted he has played "grunge" with minor males, pulling up on each other's underwear until it hurts.
6) Fr. Collova admitted that he discussed erections and patterns of erectile response with minors in group sessions on retreat. Fr. Collova saw nothing inappropriate in this behavior: "all priests do that."
7) Fr. Collova admitted to having one young man whom he knew as a minor and who is reported by [redacted] to be gay, move in to the rectory at St. Rita's.
8) No information about the masturbation incident with [redacted] or the above admissions were given to St. Luke's Institute prior to his evaluation there.

Fr. Collova was very upset and angry and expressed a desire to sue the Archdiocese. At times, he said he felt suicidal and didn't know if he wished to remain a priest. The feelings, Fr. Collova said, predated these allegations.

Elizabeth C. Piasecki, Psy.D.
Licensed Psychologist
Coordinator, Archdiocesan Response
to Sexual Abuse

ECP:bk

Memo dated April 18, 1997 from Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki concerning the evaluation of Father Collova at Southdown

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
of the Archdiocese
of Milwaukee, Inc.

April 18, 1997

Notes Regarding: Conference Call/Feedback session, Southdown Treatment Facility
Evaluation of Father Joseph Collova

Conference Call: Dr. [redacted]
Dr. Liz Piasecki
Bishop Richard Sklba

Present also at Southdown: Dr. Ruth Droege
Dr. Michael See
Fr. Joseph Collova

Reviewed presenting reasons for current evaluation: 1992 allegations by T.C., question of reassignment and fitness for ministry.

Material reviewed by Southdown:
- Wausau Report
- St. Luke Institute Report
- St. Michael report (treatment aborted)
- Dr. [redacted] treatment goals, letter from and to Archbishop Weakland in her files

Behaviors raised in these materials, particularly St. Luke's: teenagers staying overnight in the rectory, teenagers accompanying Father Collova on vacation in the company of another adult, "roughhousing," and "locker-room behaviors."

Southdown personnel have studied all these materials for the current assessment. It appears to them from the St. Luke's report that Father Collova used the company of teenagers to give him a sense of acceptance, etc. No anal, oral, or other direct sexual actions were noted although the issue of compulsivity and the lack of sexual integration were noted. At the time of the St. Luke's evaluation, Father Collova reported he was having sexual fantasies toward adult men and adult women images on TV. Diagnosis from St. Luke's included Axis I: Psychosexual disorder Not Otherwise Specified with compulsive features.

Today, Father Collova reports that he is "heterosexual to bisexual." Southdown reports that his sexual issues need to be addressed in treatment, particularly regarding sexual orientation and immature adolescent behavior. Further exploration is needed regarding the integration of sexual issues. Southdown raised several of the same questions which the Archbishop had previously raised to [redacted] pecifically, have the boundary issues been addressed?

3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee,
WI 53207-0912
414/769-3400
FAX 414/769-3428

Member
Catholic Charities USA

United way

Father Collova has been in treatment with Dr. [redacted] twice: in 1985 for a period of nine months, and from 1993 to the present. In the last period, she has established the following treatment goals for Father Collova:

1. Help with understanding and recognition of Father Collova's needs for affirmation and approval.
2. Help with anger issues.
3. Exploration of thoughts and feelings about priesthood.
4. Help with stress management, including learning to set personal limits within priesthood, including learning to say no.
5. Exploration of family of origin issues as they influence Father Collova's authority issues.

Dr. [redacted] reported that her treatment with Father Collova since the allegations were brought forth involved helping him to cope with the emotional, psychological, and spiritual stress brought on by the public lawsuit.

Southdown reported that they find that these goals of treatment do not address the adolescent and immature behaviors that relate to the sexual integration and orientation issues.

Southdown reported also that treatment seems to have operated out of the assumption that because St. Luke's did not give a diagnosis of pedophilia/ephebophilia that sexuality issues didn't need to be addressed in Dr. [redacted] work with Father Collova.

In the current evaluation, Father Collova admitted to the Southdown assessment team that he did fall asleep on the couch and that he would awake to finding teenagers using long probing objects in his anal area. He also admitted that he would fall asleep on the couch in his nightshirt and that a teenager would sleep on top of him. He still sees nothing inappropriate about any of these activities.

Reviewed briefly some of the test results given at Southdown. Not much change from St. Luke's testing. VIQ=106;PIQ=111;FSIQ=109. Deficits in complex processing were noted from the neuropsych testing at St. Luke's. Current testing reaffirms low scores on Picture Arrangement and Digit Span on the WAIS-R, tests of sequential reasoning and new learning/encoding. Rorschach data indicates that Father Collova scans information hastily, often neglects critical cues, does not do well with complex and sophisticated material for processing, and cognitive processing style is irregular. Verbal expression is circumstantial and concrete as well as impulsive and uninhibited.

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In addition, there is evidence of significant dependency needs, support from others, and low self-esteem. Father Collova is noted to place himself in the role of care giver and caretaker. The evaluators also note that Father Collova is significantly more immature than expected with noteworthy lapses in control and self-defeating behavior. They also note that Father Collova reacts to threats with externalization.

Other areas of concern besides immaturity and unintegrated sexuality include weight and smoking issues. Father Collova is now a diabetic with his fasting blood sugar at 177. There is considerable anger and negativity toward the Church which would require resolution before any assignment could be given. The assessors noted that Father Collova wishes to leave the priesthood, but has no plans on what to do further. Father Collova believes that his opportunities for employment are limited because he has such a public case. This leaves him feeling depressed and suicidal at times. When questioned by this writer on the change from demanding an assignment to now reporting that he wants to leave the priesthood, Father Collova said he couldn't deal with the "65 pages " of forms it takes to voluntarily laicize. Father Collova was confronted with the fact that he made an appointment with Father Connell and did not keep it. This writer also raised the issue of ongoing vocational instability as was noted in the Archbishop's letter to Dr. [redacted] Father Collova responded "I just want what is coming to me."

Southdown's recommendations included outpatient or residential treatment prior to any assignment.

Dx:

Axis I:	Adjustment Disorder with Depression
Axis II:	Dependent Personality Disorder with Obsessive-compulsive and self-defeating traits

Final written report is to follow.

ECP:saz

TIMOTHY MICHAEL DOLAN

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia
Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

COPY

DECREE OF EXCOMMUNICATION

REGARDING THE ENTRANCE INTO SCHISM OF THE REVEREND S. JOSEPH COLLOVA

JULY 23, 2004

PREFACE TO THE DECREE OF EXCOMMUNICATION

In order to dispel any doubts about the canonical status of the Reverend S. Joseph Collova, who, in an act constituting a withdrawal of submission to the Supreme Pontiff and from communion with the members of the Church subject to him, that is to say schism, incurred a *latae sententiae* excommunication upon his formal ascription as a putative cleric in the Independent Evangelical Catholic Church of America.

DECREE OF EXCOMMUNICATION

Pursuant to the canonical warnings issued on July 6, 2004, and reiterated in a second correspondence, because of S. Joseph Collova's "incardination" into the Independent Evangelical Catholic Church of America, and who did not within the period that ended July 21, 2004, give any indication of amendment or repentance for the most serious offense that had been committed, I, in keeping with these warnings, declare that he has incurred the *latae sententiae* excommunication described in law, with all the effects established in canons 1331 and 1336, §1, 2° & 3°, of the Code of Canon Law.

The above penalties notwithstanding, this declaratory decree does not prevent the future application of canon 1336, §1, 5°.

In having to take this action, I trust that, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, Father Collova may rediscover the path of conversion in order to return to the unity of the faith and to communion with the Church, which has been wounded by this action.

Given at Milwaukee,
from the Office of the Archbishop,
on the 23rd day of July, year of our Lord, 2004.

+ Timothy M. Dolan

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Very Reverend Paul B. R. Hartmann
Judicial Vicar and Ecclesiastical Notary

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

METROPOLITAN TRIBUNAL

Prot. No.: P 01/04

July 3, 2004

Reverend S. Joseph Collova

[redacted]

Dousman, WI 53118

Father Collova:

This letter serves to inform you that by decree of the Archbishop of Milwaukee, the Metropolitan Tribunal has been directed to investigate the circumstances of your relationship to the Independent Evangelical Catholic Church in America (IECCA). By virtue of information published on the aforementioned ecclesial body's website (http://www.iecca.org/stein.htm), and an announcement published in the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel newspaper, on Saturday, June 26, 2004 (http://www.jsonline.com/lifestyle/religion/calendar.asp), you now appear to have entered into some form of ecclesial relationship with this community.

Given that you are still an incardinated cleric of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and that you are establishing yourself in this new role within the bounds of this jurisdiction, it is felt necessary to take this juridic step so that, to the extent possible, confusion and/or scandal among the Catholic faithful can be avoided.

Should there be a need to move beyond a preliminary investigation, the requirement will only be to prove the fact of an act of schism (cc. 751 & 1364) and to declare the penalties that are incurred *latae sententiae*. The outcome of such a process would include taking appropriate steps to inform the wider archdiocese of the fact, and implications (c. 1331), of this declaration.

Given the above mentioned details, I ask that you provide a written response to this office within fifteen days of your receipt of this notification. Should you wish the assistance of a canonical advocate in this matter, a list of names can be provided to you upon request.

It is hoped that this matter can be resolved in a timely manner, and in the best interests of your personal and spiritual well-being, as well as to the benefit of the Church.

In Christ,

Very Rev. Paul B. R. Hartmann
Judicial Vicar

c: Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan
Rev. Philip Reifenberg, Promotor of Justice

Encl: Pertinent canons.

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 070912, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912
PHONE: (414)769-3300 • FAX: (414)769-3310 • E-MAIL: tribunal@archmil.org • WEB SITE: www.archmil.org

TIMOTHY MICHAEL DOLAN

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia
Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

Prot. No. P 01/04

DECREE

At this time, I have received information which appears indicative of the fact that a serious offense against the Church may have been committed by the REVEREND S. JOSEPH COLLOVA. On the basis of this information Father Collova has been accused of:

> **Schism, that is to say a withdrawal of submission to the Supreme Pontiff or from communion with the members of the Church subject to him. (cc. 751 & 1364)**

Due to the seriousness of this information and by virtue of canon 1717, I hereby decree that the prior investigation of a penal process be opened and that a cautious investigation be undertaken concerning these allegations and Father Collova's imputability in order to determine if the *latae sententiae* excommunication is to be publicly declared.

In addition, I hereby appoint the Very Reverend Paul B. R. Hartmann, Judicial Vicar, to serve as auditor, with the direct assistance of the Very Reverend Curt Frederick, Vicar for Clergy, and I direct them, and those designated by Father Hartmann, to conduct, on my behalf, an appropriate investigation into the facts and circumstances of this matter and the related question of Father Collova's imputability in accord with the norm of canon law.

Given at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee on the 1st day of July, 2004.

The Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Notary

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 22, 2003

His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger
Prefect, The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
00120 Vatican City State
Europe

Your Eminence,

May I respectfully submit herewith to the judgement of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith the petition of the Reverend Salvatore Joseph Collova, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, to be dispensed from all obligations attached to sacred orders, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state. Father Collova has been accused of sexual abuse of a minor and has been removed from all forms of public ministry.

Let me explain the allegation. In December 1992, a member of our archdiocesan staff received a telephone call from a gentleman who claimed that approximately ten years earlier Father Collova had sexually molested him. This gentleman also filed civil and criminal charges against Father Collova in state court. Arrangements were made to assure that Father Collova had access to a civil attorney as well as a canon lawyer.

Immediately, we conducted a preliminary investigation and determined that the allegations seemed to have merit. In early 1993, Father Collova agreed to take a personal leave of absence and not exercise priestly ministry in a public forum. In addition, Father Collova agreed to undergo an extensive psychological evaluation. An initial psychological evaluation of Father Collova was conducted at St. Luke Institute in Silver Spring, Maryland, but with inconclusive results. Soon thereafter, Father Collova entered a counseling program at the St. Michael Community in St. Louis, Missouri, but he left that program after only a few months and went to live with his sister in Minnesota.

In September 1993, Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki, a psychologist employed by our Catholic Charities, wrote a memo to the Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B., then the Archbishop of Milwaukee, in which she registered concern because Father Collova was once again living in Milwaukee, and she felt that he might continue to act out sexually with minors. A copy of this memo is enclosed for you review.

On February 7, 1995, Dr. Piasecki wrote to Archbishop Weakland, among others, in which she documents an earlier interview she had with Father Collova and she identifies statements that were made by Father Collova about the allegation, some of which are self-incriminating. A copy of this memo is enclosed for your review.

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Shortly thereafter, on February 16, 1995, Archbishop Weakland wrote a letter to Father Collova outlining all of the information that had been discovered to that point in time, including various examples of inappropriate sexual behavior. Clearly, the need for a more thorough psychological evaluation was present. A copy of this letter is enclosed for your review.

In 1997, Father Collova entered Southdown in Aurora, Ontario, Canada for the necessary evaluation. At the conclusion of that evaluation, and in the presence of Father Collova, a report meeting was conducted. Dr. Piasecki's memo concerning that meeting is enclosed for you review. However, confidentiality requirements prohibit me from sending you a copy of the final written report. Yet, I may say that the consulting clinical psychologist reported that Father Collova suffers from a psychological disorder in that there is a lack of maturity of certain of his personality functions as they relate to sexuality. Thus, the psychologist concludes, it would not be appropriate to assign Father Collova to ministry.

Finally, concerning the truthfulness of the original allegation, a couple of points need to be made. First, the actions brought in the state court were eventually dismissed because the statute of limitations had expired, thus prohibiting the court from ruling on his guilt or innocence. Second, Father Collova denies the specific allegation of sexual abuse. However, Father Collova's civil attorney admitted to the Archbishop Weakland in a letter dated September 30, 1997 (a letter in which the attorney is wanting to arrange financial assistance for Father Collova), that the priest "has admitted to some behavior in the past which was inconsistent with his vocation." A copy of this letter is enclosed for your review.

Based on the information at hand, Archbishop Weakland concluded and I continue to concur that the original allegation is most likely true.

As I stated above, early in 1993, at the time that Father Collova was granted a personal leave, he agreed not to exercise priestly ministry in a public forum. However, during the early months of 1998 Archbishop Weakland learned that in fact Father Collova was celebrating Mass at a parish. Archbishop Weakland spoke with the pastor of that parish about the matter.

Archbishop Weakland gave serious consideration to initiating a penal process against Father Collova in our Ecclesiastical Tribunal. Yet, fear of generating real scandal coupled with Father Collova's expressed interest in seeking from the Holy Father a dispensation from all obligations attached to sacred orders, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state, led Archbishop Weakland to decide against the church penal process. Obviously, it has taken Father Collova a rather lengthy time to actually submit this request to the Holy Father. In fact, there have been other occasions when we thought he was going to do so, but he did not.

I am convinced that Father Collova has accepted this reality and now wants to move on with his life. Hence, he humbly and freely request that he be dispensed from all obligations resulting from Holy Orders, including celibacy, and be returned to the lay

state. In fact, a letter from Father Collova to our Holy Father is enclosed and indicates this desire. I strongly support this petition.

Moreover, Father James Connell, my Vice Chancellor, interviewed Father Collova who indicated his free-will desire for laicization. In addition, Father Connell has met with three priests who knew Father Collova both before and after his ordination to the priesthood. These three priests, the Reverend Thomas Fait, the Reverend Thomas Demse, and the Reverend Richard Liska, all told Father Connell that they also believe that Father Collova sincerely and freely seeks this dispensation.

Finally, I am very certain that no scandal would arise if this dispensation were granted to Father Collova. In fact, it would help bring closure to a very difficult and sad situation.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this regard and I have the honor to be, Your Eminence,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Copies also to: Bishop Sklba
Rev. James Jarumbo
Vicar for Clergy Person
Chancery
Dr. Liz Piasecki

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE
3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. Box 07912 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

FEB 17 1995

February 16, 1995

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova
[redacted]
Muskego, Wisconsin 53150-8706

Dear Joe,

I know that you are eager to receive an assignment, even before the lawsuit against you is solved. As I understand the situation, it is still in the Appeals Court. The case is being tried on the grounds of expiration of the statute of limitations and not on whether the event happened or not.

In this letter I would like to point out the difficulties on my part for such an assignment. I have to answer to the people of the Archdiocese, so that if you receive an assignment I can say that there is no risk involved to our people and especially to our young people. Since the lawsuit is a public matter, I must also act responsibly and be able to defend publicly the act of giving you an assignment as an active priest in this Archdiocese. I must be able to say publicly what I have done to make sure that there are no - or at least minimum - risks involved.

Let me go down through the evidence as I see and know it. Let me point out what I know and then what questions and anxieties arise in my mind that will have to be dealt with.

1. During my first years here, while you were at Holy Apostles (therefore, before 1981), a college seminarian came to me to relate that you had propositioned him. I talked with you at that time and you did not deny the fact. My recollection is that the young man was in his late teens.

2. The log is full of difficulties that you experienced at your second assignment at St. James. At your request, these led to the evaluation at Wausau in March of 1985. That evaluation shows you struggling with vocation issues and self-identity questions.

3. In May of 1985, you were accused of molesting a fourteen-year-old at St. James. This case went to the office of the District Attorney of Milwaukee, but no charges were brought and you denied that you had any sexual motives in your actions. You moved into therapy with Dr. [redacted] and to Bethany House.

June 21, 2004

Bishop James Alan Wilkowski
P.O. Box 178388
Chicago, IL 60617

Dear Bishop Wilkowski,

Your request for information on Reverend S. Joseph Collova arrived while I was in Rome and only now am I able to respond. I understand that it is your desire to proceed with an acceptance of Father Collova into the Evangelical Catholic Diocese of the Northwest. If such is his intention after careful discernment, we can do nothing to stand in his way.

You indicate that Father Collova has fully informed you of the allegations against him, has shared with you various psychological reports and assessments, and that you are satisfied that he is suitable for ministry. In the interests of full disclosure, we need to make sure you have certain clarifications.

The civil suit you cite was, in fact, dismissed by the courts. However, you must know that it was not dismissed for lack of merit but because the statute of limitations had expired. I would hope that the admissions made by Father Collova about serious violations of boundary issues with minor males were also shared with you by him. You indicate having seen a report from Southdown, it would be helpful for you to have also seen the full set of psychological reports. The part-time, supervised ministry consideration that was being offered in 1996 was intended to test whether he could serve in a carefully monitored setting. That decision was reconsidered and it was determined that no assignment could be offered.

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee would have proceeded in 2002 with a penal trial so that the case could be definitively resolved. However, Father Collova stated, as he had on various occasions for more than ten years, that he wished to leave active ministry. He formalized that request in September 2003 and again in May 2004.

If Father Collova were to sign a release, we would be prepared to share more information with you. Since Father has threatened civil action against the Archdiocese of Milwaukee on numerous occasions, we are not inclined to offer anything more of substance without such a release.

Should you decide to proceed with acceptance of Father Collova, we would appreciate being informed of that fact so that we can close his files, record the appropriate canonical documents here, and provide notification to the people of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack
Chancellor

Copies also to: Bishop Sklba
Rev. James Jarumbo
Vicar for Clergy Person
Chancery
Dr. Liz Piasecki

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE
3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. Box 07912 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

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[redacted]
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ARCHDIOCESE
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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 16, 1995

4. In December of 1992, Mary Kay Balchunas met with [redacted] who brought allegations about incidents while you were at St. James. He mentioned others who traveled in the same circle who would be coming forth with similar accusations. These did not come forward.

5. In January of 1993, you were sent for evaluation to the St. Luke Institute in Maryland. They concluded that you were not to be considered in the category of a pedophile, but they did point out that you were not able to set boundaries with younger people and engaged in much coarse physical play and grossly inappropriate behavior. They also pointed out your compulsive behavior and the lack of sexual integration. They reiterated the points of lack of self-confidence and self-worth that had arisen in the Wausau report.

6. On return, you met with Dr. Piasecki and talked about the lack of boundaries and specific incidents.

7. In April of 1993, you were sent to St. Michael's in St. Louis for residential treatment. They reported to us that you were much in denial. This was evident by your termination of treatment on your own in June of that year. They felt there was no cooperation in treatment and no rectification of adolescent behavior. Through this period there was much talk on your part about leaving the priesthood, but I decided that such a decision was premature and could only be made after the therapy. I refused to submit your request.

8. In May of 1993, we asked Mary Howard Johnstone to investigate for us the situation and especially the names mentioned by [redacted]. She did so after some time, as she experienced much difficulty in being able to talk to [redacted]. She interviewed four of those he mentioned. [redacted] brother, [redacted], also stated that there was genital and buttock grabbing. She also interviewed [redacted] and [redacted], as well as [redacted]. No serious allegations appeared in these interviews, but some boundary questions arose (mooning in Door County, etc.) and lack of professional behavior on your part, Joe. Mary Howard never submitted a written report. These results were phoned to Bishop Sklba in October of 1993.

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE
3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. Box 07912 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 16, 1995

9. In December of 1993, the lawsuit was finally filed against the diocese and against you, Joe. It has dragged interminably, much to your and our distress.

The important point, Joe, is that the issues that were raised by all the above incidents and psychological reports have not been put to rest. I do not have in my conscience the assurance that I can just reassign you to ministry with all of that background unresolved. It might be true that the question of whether [redacted] was a minor when the events he alleges took place has not been resolved, but that is not the only question to be answered. There are still other issues that worry me.

These issues would be: Have the boundary issues been faced? According to the conversation with the personnel at St. Michael's, the answer would have to be no. The problem of adolescent and compulsive behavior remains. Can you minister to that late teenage group or will you fall back into previous patterns? What assurances would I have that the patterns that have been so evident in your whole priesthood and in all the assignments will not be repeated? Your refusal to complete the therapy at St. Michael's and their concern that you were in denial remain.

Secondly, the issue of vocation seems to have been dropped. Is it still to be considered an important question?

Wherever you would be assigned, Joe, I would have to answer publicly the first group of questions. These are not questions that can now be treated just between you and me. At present, I could not go before a parish council and say that I was at ease in making an assignment and that I could guarantee that any inappropriate behavior would not reoccur. What I need are the kinds of reasonable guarantees that would permit me to do just that.

As I understand Church Law, I do not have to give a priest an assignment. I know that the diocese is responsible for food, shelter, and medical care for its priests. We have done more than that in your case, but without cooperation on your part in clearing up the issues that I mentioned, issues that prevent me in conscience from giving you a priestly assignment.

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE
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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February 16, 1995

The Reverend S. Joseph Collova -4

I have tried to be clear in laying out my concerns. I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. [redacted] in the hopes that we can begin to work on these questions and bring them to a satisfactory resolution, so that I can obtain the necessary assurances that I need.

Peace.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

CC: Dr. [redacted]

member of rel. order — for 9 months
Institute for the Scalabrinian Fathers,
Cornwall, N.Y

Ap 8 1971 —
denied admission to Major Sem. by
Rev William Schmit attempt. studies for
the priesthood for Ital. "for reasons which
I do not feel to spell out in this letter."

Accepted March 23, 72 - Schmit
May 1, 1973 — accepted to the General
Pastoral Program - S.F.S. by Sheldon,
Dean, GPP

Ty:
Ap 12, 1993 St. Michael's Community Program / Semts. of No
Paradise
St. Luke Institute - Feb 2, 1993 report

[redacted], Ph.D - outpt. psychotherapy
concluded Dec 1986 -
present (?)

[redacted], LP - P&C Eval
8/11/85

[redacted]

4/1981 → Seizures Graham

11/14/83 – "letters of Complaint" from parishioners

May 1, 1985 → questioned by Police Dept / Franklin → accused of a "14 yr old vagrant" of sexual assault -

DA / Columbus County → reviewing charges

Therapy – [redacted]

Dec 18 1992 – May Kay Baldwin met C [redacted]

12/29/92 – P. Asselin / Verne met C [redacted] allegations "8-10 years ago" C 4yrs – St. James Franklin

6 young men

Southdown

1335 St. John's Sideroad East
R.R. #2
Aurora, Ontario L4G 3G8
Canada
Telephone/Fax (905) 727-4214

CONFIDENTIAL

April 4, 1997

Very Rev. Carrol C. Straub
Vicar for Clergy
3501 S. Lake Drive
P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, WI
53207-0912

Dear Reverend Straub:

This is a confirmation that an assessment has been booked for Father. Father has been asked to be at Southdown by the evening of Sunday, April 13, 1997.

If you have not already done so, I suggest that you share with Father the information for the assessment that you shared with me, to the extent possible. It would also be helpful for you to have discussed with Father your need to receive the written assessment report. At the beginning of the week, Father will be asked to sign a release of information indicating his willingness to communicate to you the assessment findings. The assessment will not proceed until this is done, unless another agreement between you and Father has been mutually reached.

The feedback session will be held by phone to Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki at ***1:00 p.m. (our time) on Friday, April 18, 1997.*** Southdown welcomes your participation in the assessment which provides an opportunity for your concerns, together with those of individual assessed, to be heard.

If either myself or my Secretary, Patricia Kett, can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Ruth Droege, O.P., Ph.D., C.Psych.
Director, Assessment Program

:pk

Emmanuel Convalescent Foundation

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

DEPARTMENT FOR CLERGY PERSONNEL

Archdiocese of Milwaukee and Catholic Charities, Inc.

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Re: Rev. S. Joseph Collova

05/10/48
D.O.B.

I, Rev. S. Joseph Collova, hereby request and authorize the exchange of information between Catholic Charities, Inc., the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki, Rev. Carrol C. Straub. Rev. Leonard M. Barbian, Vicars for Clergy, Archbishop R. Weakland, Bishop R. Skiba, and Southdown Treatment Facility and Dr. [redacted] regarding myself. I am aware that the disclosure of this information is for the purpose of psychological evaluation, evaluation of allegations of sexual misconduct, and fitness for ministerial assignment. This authorization may be revoked by me at any time and will expire in one year.

I am aware that this information will be disclosed from my personnel records and other records at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Information to be disclosed includes:

X	Psychiatric Findings	) Report from St. Luke's Institute,
X	Psychological Findings	) St. Michael's Community,
X	Social Work Findings	) 1985 Report, Psychology Associates,
X	Physical Findings	) Wausau
X	Recommendations	)
X	Other (Specify) Case material related to sexual abuse allegations and personal conduct	

Client's Signature S. Joseph Cova Date 4/4/97

Witness Carrol C Straub Date 4/4/97

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414)769-3484

611. Joe Collova
June 28, 2004 Vicar is informed that Joseph Collova is to be incardinated into Evangelical Catholic Diocese of the Northwest and will formally open the denomination's first church in Wisconsin, the Mission Church of St. Edith Stein in the Tremain Recreation Community Center, Dousman 6/27/04. JFH

13. S. Joseph Collova
July 6, 2004 A decree initiating the investigation of an act of schism by Rev. S. Joseph Collova was received by the Vicar's office. CJF

330. S. Joseph Collova
On July 16, 2004, I received a phone call from Sister [redacted] SCSJA, who wanted to report an incident after seeing the article about J. Collova in the newspaper. She said that on March 29 or the neighboring Saturday, she attended a committal service for the mother of a cousin's husband at Wisconsin Memorial Park, only to discover J. Collova in alb and stole officiating at the non-Eucharistic service. Knowing the family, Sister approached Collova, who insisted that he had the authorization to function. Sister Judith was very suspicious and finally called my office, whereupon, I told her that he was restricted from public ministry and from presenting himself as a Catholic priest. Apparently, he was on the Memorial Park's list of available priests for such services, contrary to the canonical precept. RJS

AUG 16 2002

COPY

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

OFFICE OF THE AUXILIARY BISHOP

August 16, 2002

His Eminence, Jorge Cardinal Arturo Medina Estevez
Prefect, The Congregation for Divine Worship and
The Discipline of the Sacraments
00120 Vatican City State
Europe

Your Eminence,

May I respectfully submit herewith to the judgement of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments the attached petition of the Reverend Salvatore Joseph Collova, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, to be dispensed from all obligations attached to sacred orders, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state.

Salvatore Joseph Collova
Age: 54 (born: May 10, 1948)
Ordained a priest: May 30, 1976, by the Most Reverend William E. Cousins, then the Archbishop of Milwaukee
Date assigned to active ministry: June 15, 1976
Date of resignation from active ministry: March 31, 1993.

In December 1992, a member of our archdiocesan staff received a telephone call from a gentleman who claimed that approximately ten years earlier Father Collova had sexually molested him. This gentleman also filed civil and criminal charges against Father Collova in state court. Arrangements were made to assure that Father Collova had access to a civil attorney as well as a canon lawyer.

Immediately, we conducted a preliminary investigation and determined that the allegations seemed to have merit. In early 1993, Father Collova agreed to take a personal leave of absence and not exercise priestly ministry in a public forum. In addition, Father Collova agreed to undergo an extensive psychological evaluation. An initial psychological evaluation of Father Collova was conducted at St. Luke Institute in Silver Spring, Maryland, but with inconclusive results. Soon thereafter, Father Collova entered a counseling program at the St. Michael Community in St. Louis, Missouri, but he left that program after only a few months and went to live with his sister in Minnesota.

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Finally, concerning the truthfulness of the original allegation, a couple of points need to be made. First, the actions brought in the state court were eventually dismissed because the statute of limitations (the time limit for legal recourse) had expired, thus prohibiting the court from ruling on his guilt or innocence. Second, Father Collova denies the specific allegation of sexual abuse. However, Father Collova's civil attorney admitted to the Archbishop Weakland in a letter dated September 30, 1997 (a letter in which the attorney is wanting to arrange financial assistance for Father Collova), that the priest "has admitted to some behavior in the past which was inconsistent with his vocation." A copy of this letter is enclosed for your review.

Based on the information at hand, Archbishop Weakland concluded and I continue to concur that the original allegation is most likely true.

As I stated above, early in 1993, at the time that Father Collova was granted a personal leave, he agreed not to exercise priestly ministry in a public forum. However, during the early months of 1998 Archbishop Weakland learned that in fact Father Collova was celebrating Mass at a parish. Archbishop Weakland spoke with the pastor of that parish about the matter.

Archbishop Weakland gave serious consideration to initiating a penal process against Father Collova in our Ecclesiastical Tribune. Yet, fear of generating real scandal coupled

with Father Collova's expressed interest in seeking from the Holy Father a dispensation from all obligations attached to sacred orders, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state, lead Archbishop Weakland to decide against the church penal process. Obviously, it has taken Father Collova a rather lengthy time to actually submit this request to the Holy Father. In fact, there have been other occasions when we thought he was going to do so, but he did not.

There is one additional matter. I realize that Father Collova claims the contrary, but throughout the years since the allegation was made in 1992, we have been providing financial assistance to Father Collova as his needs require and considering the status of his civil employment. In fact, we have been and presently continue to pay for his psychological counseling, health insurance premium and pension. We will continue to monitor the situation.

No doubt, given the data at hand, I cannot now or at time in the future assign Father Collova to priestly ministry. In addition, I could not recommend him to our next archbishop nor to any other bishop. As a result, I support Father Collova's desire for a dispensation from all his priestly obligations, including celibacy, and to be returned to the lay state. Not only am I convinced that the dispensation would not cause scandal, it actually would help to bring closure to a very difficult situation.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this regard and I have the honor to be, Your Eminence,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba
Auxiliary Bishop and Archdiocesan Administrator

404. S. Joseph Collova

On August 30, 2004, I was approached by a member of the school at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, who inquired about the propriety of a backyard baptism by a former priest. Upon further discussion, I learned that someone associated with Marquette University had a very recent baptism, at which Joe Collova officiated, apparently giving the impression of representing the Catholic Church and its Sacramental tradition. RJS

Subject: [Fwd: Evangelical Catholic church to open]
Date: Mon, 28 Jun 2004 08:05:39 -0500
From: Jerry Topczewski <topczewskij@archmil.org>
Organization: Archdiocese of Milwaukee
To: Barbara Anne Cusack <cusackb@archmil.org>, Joe Hornacek <hornacekj@archmil.org>, Bishop Richard Skiba <bishopskiba@archmil.org>

fyi

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: Evangelical Catholic church to open
Date: Sat, 26 Jun 2004 01:52:50 -0500
From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]

06-26-04

F Y I -

Following is a story from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel 06-26-04

State's first Evangelical Catholic church to open: The Rev. S. Joseph Collova, a former Roman Catholic priest, will be incardinated into the Evangelical Catholic Diocese of the Northwest by Bishop James Wilkowski at 2 p.m. today at the Dekoven Center, 600 21st St., Racine. Collova will formally open the denomination's first church in Wisconsin, the Mission Church of Saint Edith Stein, at 5 p.m. Sunday in the Tremain Recreation Community Center, N2639 County Road Z, Dousman. Call Collova at [redacted] or go to:

Check these WEBSites out! The only question I have is WHY???

http://www.iecca.org/stein.htm

http://www.iecca.org/

http://www.iecca.org/index2.htm

http://www.iecca.org/faq.htm

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[redacted]